

04-892
COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALLASEY.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND,

School Medical Officer

FOR THE YEAR

1946

RONALD S. BERRY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

*Medical Officer of Health, Medical Superintendent of the
Corporation Infectious Diseases Hospital, Administrative
Tuberculosis Officer, School Medical Officer, etc.*

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Public Health Department,
August, 1947.

The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the County Borough of Wallasey.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year 1946.

Again there is a considerable increase in population to record, and it is of interest to report that by June of the present year the Ministry of Food's estimate of the population was over 100,000. Unfortunately, this increase of population is having an increasing effect on the serious overcrowding that exists throughout the town, and I am afraid a very long period of time must elapse before there is any hope of there being sufficient new housing accommodation to alleviate this state of affairs.

The births show a considerable increase—the number of live births being over 2,000, and it is satisfactory, with this increase, to record a considerable reduction in the Infantile Death Rate. Of the 87 deaths in the first year of life, 51 occurred during the first four weeks, compared with 38 out of a total of 97 in 1945, and of these 39 were due to premature births, malformations and atelectasis. The reduction of these neo-natal deaths can only be brought about by improved ante-natal care and midwifery.

The Infantile Death Rate of 42.2 per 1,000 births is the lowest on record, except for the year 1928 when the figure was 38.8. This satisfactory figure suggests that, in spite of rationing difficulties and shortages, the special provision for expectant and nursing mothers and babies, combined with general improvement in child-care, to which the Child Welfare Services of the Local Authority make a considerable contribution, there is no deterioration in the health and nutrition of infants.

The Maternal Mortality rate is also considerably less than the average throughout the country.

Measles was prevalent throughout the year and the incidence has continued into 1946.

Although 96 cases of Diphtheria were notified, of 90 patients admitted to Mill Lane Hospital, in only 49 cases was the disease confirmed. It is a matter for regret that large numbers of parents do not avail themselves of the facilities offered for the immunisation of their children against Diphtheria.

Mr. Cleator, the Chief Sanitary Inspector, retired in August, 1946, after over 37 years service with the Council, and was succeeded by Mr. W. Bate, who returned to Wallasey after valuable experience with H.M. Forces in the Far East.

The work of the Sanitary Inspectors' Department was full of difficulty throughout the year, owing to the extreme shortage of materials necessary to remedy the very many housing defects which exist throughout the town.

It is hoped, when opportunity offers, to pay much more attention to the way food is produced and handled in the town—this is of extreme importance in view of the very large numbers of people from all over the country who patronise the restaurants in New Brighton during the holiday season.

I should once again like to acknowledge the work done by the staff throughout the year, and to thank the Committee for the support they have continued to give me.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

RONALD B. BERRY,

Medical Officer of Health,

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in Acres, as ascertained by Ordnance Survey,	
January, 1932	5,908
River and Sea frontage	Slightly less than eight miles.
Census Population, April, 1931	97,626
Registrar-General's estimated population at middle of 1946	96,320
Ministry of Food estimated population at 26th June, 1946	96,978
„ „ „ „ 21st June, 1947	100,316
Inhabited houses at 31st December, 1946	26,429
Empty „ „ „ „	454
Rateable Value, 1939-1940	£877,164
„ „ 1st April, 1946	£866,868
Approx. yield of a Penny Rate for 1946-47 as estimated	
at 1st April, 1946	£3,380

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live Births—Legitimate	1,014	920	1,934
Illegitimate	61	64	125
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,075	984	2,059
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Birth Rate—21.37 per 1,000 population.

„ „ 19.1 „ „ for England and Wales.

Still Births, 55. Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births—26.0

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Deaths to Dec. 31st	621	588	1,209
Death-rate per 1,000 of estimated population			12.5
Death-rate per 1,000 of estimated population, England and			
Wales			11.5
Uncertified Deaths : 2 ; Percentage of Deaths : 0.58			

Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and child-birth (Headings 29 and 30 of Registrar-General's Short List) :—

Puerperal Sepsis 0. Rate per 1,000 live and still-births	0.00	} Total
Other Puerperal cases 1 do.	0.47	
		0.47

Deaths of Infants under ONE year of age 87

Death-rate of Infants under ONE year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	42.2
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	42.0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	48.0
Neo-Natal Rate per 1,000 births	24.7
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (including Enteritis), under 1 year	12
Under 2 years	—
Diarrhoea and Enteritis Mortality Rate under 1 year, per	
1,000 live births	5.8

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STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF

CAUSES OF DEATH.	SEXES.		All Ages	DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT						Total Deaths Institution in the Borough whether residents or non- residents
	M.	F.		Under 1 5		Under 15 45		Under 65	Over 65	
All causes { Certified	616	586	1202	86	15	13	94	289	705	190
{ Uncertified ...	5	2	7	1	...	...	...	4	2	...
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Cerebro-spinal fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Scarlet fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Whooping Cough .....	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
5. Diphtheria	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	2
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	29	26	55	...	...	1	31	19	4	6
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	7	2	9	2	1	3	2	1	...	8
8. Syphilitic diseases	4	...	4	...	...	...	...	2	2	...
9. Influenza	8	6	14	3	1	...	1	1	8	...
10. Measles .....	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Acute polio myelitis & polio encephalitis ...	...	2	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	1
12. Acute infective encephalitis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. Cancer of buc. cav. oesoph M. & uterus F.	11	11	22	...	...	...	1	11	10	3
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum	24	12	36	...	...	...	...	15	21	4
15. Cancer of Breast .....	...	19	19	...	...	...	3	7	9	1
16. Cancer of all other sites	65	58	123	...	...	...	10	50	63	28
17. Diabetes	1	4	5	...	...	...	...	3	2	3
18. Intercranial vascular lesions	61	81	142	...	1	...	3	26	112	21
19. Heart disease	183	164	347	...	...	2	7	68	270	11
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	13	14	27	...	...	...	...	9	18	7
21. Bronchitis	32	22	54	1	1	...	2	13	37	3
22. Pneumonia	23	23	46	9	...	...	4	6	27	8
23. Other respiratory diseases	3	7	10	...	...	...	...	5	5	4
24. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	13	2	15	...	...	...	2	9	4	9
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 yrs.)	8	4	12	12	...	...	...	...	...	8
26. Appendicitis	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
27. Other digestive diseases	13	10	23	1	...	1	5	5	11	7
28. Nephritis	9	16	25	...	...	...	4	8	13	10
29. Puerperal and post abortive sepsis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30. Other maternal causes	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
31. Premature birth	14	9	23	23	...	...	...	...	...	3
32. Congenital malformations	15	17	32	30	2	...	...	...	...	6
33. Suicide	5	4	9	...	...	...	4	5	...	2
34. Road traffic accidents	4	2	6	...	1	1	1	1	2	2
35. Other violent causes ...	23	15	38	3	3	1	7	8	16	11
36. All other causes	51	54	105	2	3	2	6	19	73	19
TOTALS	621	588	1209	87	15	13	94	293	707	190

6

ELSEWHERE.

LIVERPOOL AND OTHER HOSPITALS—	
(Excluding Sanatoria)	75
BIRKENHEAD MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL	213
COUNTY MENTAL HOSPITAL	14
OTHER MENTAL HOSPITALS	—
SANATORIA outside Wallasey	3
	<hr/>
TOTAL.....	305

Not in Public Institutions

INWARD TRANSFERS.....	36
TRANSFERABLE DEATHS—	
In Wallasey of Non-residents	
OUTWARD TRANSFERS	26

Residents (all ages)	51	} 65
Non-Residents (all ages)	14	
Legitimate Children—Under 1 year	5	
1 and under 2 years	—	
2 years and over	4	
Illegitimate Children—under 1 year	2	
1 and under 2 years	—	
2 years and under 5 years	—	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Total
7	6	3	5	12	6	4	9	11	5	7	3	1	—	3	4	1	87

[illegible]

No.	Cause of Death	Age
	Atelectasis of the Lung	5 hours
	Broncho-pneumonia (natural causes)... ..	3 months
(a)	Broncho-pneumonia (b) Diarrhoea and vomiting	6 months
1 (a)	Marasmus	4 months
1 (a)	Infantile Diarrhoea	2 months
1 (a)	Premature birth (7 months)	12 hours
	Asphyxia following inhalation of vomit, caused by Gastro-enteritis (Misadventure)	5 months
1 (a)	Broncho-pneumonia	1 month
1 (a)	Broncho-pneumonia	9 months
1 (a)	Marasmus	2 months

Zymotic Death-rate per 1,000 of population (excluding Diarrhoea)	0.03
Phthisis Death-rate per 1,000 of population	0.57
Respiratory Death-rate per 1,000 of population (excluding Phthisis)	1.14

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH.

Heart Disease	347	Intracranial Vascular Lesions	142
Other Circulatory Diseases	27	Congenital Debility	
Cancer.....	200	Premature Births etc. ...	55
Respiratory Diseases—		Violent Deaths (including suicides)	53
Pneumonia	46	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	25
Bronchitis	54		
Other	10		
Phthisis	55		

HOSPITAL SERVICES (within the Borough).

The following Hospitals and Institutions are PROVIDED by the LOCAL AUTHORITY within the Borough :—

1. Mill Lane Hospital : For Infectious Diseases (other than small pox).
2. Tuberculosis Sanatorium : One block, 22 beds, and one chalet with one bed, for advanced and observation cases.
3. Highfield Maternity Hospital. 21 Beds plus 13 in Annexe (from May, 1943).

In addition to the above there are the following Voluntary Hospitals within the Borough :—

4. VICTORIA CENTRAL HOSPITAL : General Hospital with 135 Beds (including 18 for children). There is an out-patient department. There is also a charitable Dispensary on the same premises.
5. WALLASEY COTTAGE HOSPITAL : General Hospital with 37 beds, which are used for men, women and children as necessity arises. This Hospital also has an out-patient department.
6. LIVERPOOL OPEN-AIR HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN LEASOWE : Orthopaedic Hospital with 230 beds (192 for children and 38 for adult females). Patients are admitted to this Hospital from various parts of the country. The Corporation has ten beds in this Hospital on terms.

HOSPITAL SERVICES (Outside the Borough).

BIRKENHEAD MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL : 125 beds are available at this Institution for sick, maternity and mental cases.

Owing to shortage of Staff the work at this hospital has been carried on under great difficulty and it has not been possible to admit many aged and infirm patients who would normally have been treated at this hospital.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

Admissions to :—

B'head Municipal Instit'n	561	Eastham House	...	3
B'head Municipal Hospital	200	County Mental Hospital	...	56

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS.

The number of unemployed persons in the Borough in January, 1946, was 1,052, and in December, 1,789, as compared with 292 and 731 respectively in January and December, 1945.

The following amounts were expended on Unemployment, etc., Benefit by the Wallasey Employment Exchange :—

	1946.	1945.
Agricultural Benefit	£139 0 0	£137 0 0
General Scheme Benefit	£91,934 0 0	£19,322 0 0
Unemployment Assistance Allowances	£7,417 0 0	£2,383 0 0

In addition the Public Assistance Committee expended £16,803 8s. 9d. on outdoor relief.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

ANTE-NATAL.

The Clinics, at which a woman doctor is in attendance, are held on the following days :—

NEW STREET—Monday, 2-0—4-0 p.m.
 „ „ —Tuesday and Thursday, 10-0—12 noon.
 OAKENHOLT ROAD, MORETON—Wednesday, 10-30—12 noon.

Special cases are referred from these Clinics to the Consultant Obstetrician who visits Highfield Maternity Hospital and his services are available whenever required.

The following figures summarise the work done at the Ante-natal and at the Post-natal Clinics during the year :—

ANTE-NATAL.

Expectant mothers on books at January 1st	..	...	103
New cases during the year	...	...	635
Names on books at December 31st	...	...	147
Attendances of Expectant Mothers	...	...	2,781
No. of Expectant Mothers attending Consultative Ante-Natal Clinic	...	...	120
No. of Attendances	...	...	189
First-visits to homes of Expectant Mothers...	...	...	1,173
Revisits do. do. do.	...	...	269

MATERNITY EMERGENCY UNIT.

The Corporation has an arrangement with the Liverpool Maternity Hospital for the use in Wallasey of the Maternity Unit for dealing with difficult domiciliary obstetric emergencies.

It has not been necessary to call upon the services of the Maternity Unit.

MIDWIVES ACT.

11 Midwives notified their intention to practise in the Borough during the year (excluding those at the Corporation Maternity Hospital, and seven Municipal Midwives).

During 1946 the seven Municipal Midwives attended 613 cases, of these, 216 were attended as maternity nurses.

Midwives in private practice attended 135 cases, of which 54 were attended as maternity nurses.

The following is a list of the causes for which Medical help was sought :—

CONDITION OF MOTHER.

			Private M'wives	M'cipal M'wives
Protracted Labour	...	...	3	14
Adherent placenta	...	...	—	3
Retained membranes	...	...	—	2
Post-partum haem	...	...	3	8
Ante-partum haem	...	...	1	3
Laceration of perineum	...	...	—	23
Uterine inertia	...	...	1	2
Foetal distress	...	...	1	1
Breech	...	...	—	1
Pyrexia	...	...	1	1
Rise of temperature	...	...	3	2
Cardiac	...	...	—	1
Albuminuria	...	...	1	—
Various other causes	...	...	1	5

CONDITION OF CHILD.

Jaundice	...	...	...	—	1
Prematurity	...	...	...	—	1
Discharging eyes	...	...	...	1	11
Spina bifida	...	...	...	—	1
Asphyxia Livida	...	...	...	—	2
Tongue tie	...	...	...	—	1
Other conditions	...	...	...	2	4

HIGHFIELD MATERNITY HOSPITAL.

The accommodation at this hospital was again in great demand and many requests for admission had to be refused.

During the year 658 cases were admitted, as follows :—

			Midwives' Cases	Doctors' Cases	Total
Primiparae	...	...	75	280	355
Multiparae	...	...	108	195	303
			<hr/> 183	<hr/> 475	<hr/> 658

In order to deal with the very great demand for institution beds, arrangements were made in May, 1943, to open the repaired half of the damaged Ward at Mill Lane Hospital as a Maternity Ward with twelve to thirteen beds. Patients are transferred to this Ward

after confinement according to the accommodation in the Maternity Hospital. This extra provision has made it possible to book sixty cases per month. Dealing with this number has, however, made very heavy demands on the Labour Wards and the trained staff of the Hospital.

	In Hosp. Jan. 1/46	No. of Admis- sions 1946	Confine- ments 1946	No. of Children	Dis- charged Undelivered	Admit- ted after C'ment	Maternal Deaths	Remain- ing Dec. 31st 1946
Doctors' cases	11	475	470	475‡	4	1	—	12
Midwives' cases	3	183	178	180*	1	4	—	4
‡Twins 5, *Twins 2.								

	Doctors' cases.	Midwives' cases.	Total.
Stillbirths ...	12	5	17
Infant Deaths ...	5	1	6
Perineal Repairs ...	190	36	226
Episiotomies ...	40	2	42
Breech Presentations ...	18	6	24
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	2	2	4
Rise of Temperature ...	10	2	12
Toxaemia of Pregnancy ...	5	—	5
Forceps ...	58	4	62
Delayed Labour ...	15	6	21
Premature Birth ...	6	4	10
Twins ...	5	2	7

Puerp. Pyrexia 4.—Influenza 2, Mastitis 1, Breast Abscess 1.

Death.—1 Patient admitted from the Tb. block to Mill Lane Hospital after delivery of premature stillborn infant. Died shortly afterwards from Advanced Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Infant Deaths 6.—Atelectasis 2, Prematurity 2, Cerebral Birth Injury 1, Maldevelopment of Heart 1.

Operations by Consultant Obstetrician.—Caesarean 1, Forceps 3, Version 6, Manual Removal of Placenta 1.

(Owing to staff difficulties 3 cases were transferred to Birkenhead Municipal Hospital for Caesarian Section.)

Complications.—

Ante-Natal:

A.P.H. ...	2	Disproportion ...	2
Placenta Praevia ...	1	Epilepsy ...	1
Toxaemia ...	5		

Post-Natal:

MOTHER.

Puerperal Pyrexia ...	4	Rise of Temp. ...	12
P.P.H. ...	3	Retained Products ...	3
Phlebitis ...	3	Mastitis ...	4

CHILD.

Asphyxia Pallida ...	9	Sticky Eyes ...	13
Jaundice ...	1	Spina Bifida ...	2
Spina Bifida & Hydrocephalus ...	1	Malformations ...	5
Phimosis ...	3	Fract. Humerus ...	1
Facial Paralysis ...	1	Abscess Arm ...	1

Amongst Stillbirths.—Macerated 5, Anencephalic 1, Spina Bifida 2, Premature 1, Premature Twins 2, A.P.H. 1.

In 183 Midwives cases doctors were called in for 58.

Torn Perineum	34	Delayed Labour ...	7
Rise of Temperature	2	Sticky Eyes	4
Breech	2	Prolapsed Cord ...	1
Asphyxia Pallida	2	Prematurity ...	1
Fract. Humerus	1	Condition of Mother ...	1
Ante-partum Hæmorrhage ...	1	Anaesthetic	2

MATERNITY CASES ADMITTED TO BIRKENHEAD MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL.

The Corporation made a declaration under Section 5 of the Local Government Act, 1929, to the effect that as and from 1st October, 1939, all assistance granted by the Council under the Maternity and Child Welfare Acts, as amended by the Public Health Act, 1936, be granted by virtue of those Acts and not by way of Poor Law Relief. During the year 141 cases were admitted to the Birkenhead Municipal Hospital under this arrangement.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

There were six notifications of Puerperal Pyrexia during the year, none of which proved fatal.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

One Maternal Death was registered during the year, the causes of which were :—1a.—Obstetric Shock.

b.—Retained placenta (2 hrs. after delivery).

2.—Diphtheria (15 months previous).

This death occurred in Birkenhead.

One case died at Highfield Maternity Hospital, the patient being a very advanced case of Tuberculosis, who was prematurely confined in the Tuberculosis Block and later transferred to Highfield. The cause of death in this case was pulmonary tuberculosis.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Eight of the Health Visitors are qualified to treat, by douching, the eyes of children suffering from Ophthalmia Neonatorum. Three cases were notified during the year and were cured with no impairment of vision.

CHILD WELFARE.

The Clinics at which a doctor attends on each occasion, are held in the afternoon of the following days :—

New Street Centre—Tuesdays. Field Road—Thursdays.
Wallasey Village—Wednesdays. Oakenholt Rd., Moreton—Tues.

The number of attendances during the year was :—

	New Street	Moreton	New Brighton	Wallasey Village	Totals
Children under one year of age	3,177	2,261	3,946	4,399	13,783
Children between one & five yrs.	109	189	695	388	1,381

SUMMARY OF VISITS PAID BY HEALTH VISITORS.

First visits and revisits to Infants under one year of age	...	7,120
Visits and revisits to Children one to five years of age	...	5,449
Total visits and revisits to children under one and up to five years of age for any purpose whatsoever, including 98 visits and revisits re Minor Infections	... ..	12,667
Visits re notified Infectious Diseases	... ..	905
,, re Infant Life Protection	... ..	79
,, and re-visits to expectant mothers	... ..	1,442

PROMOTION OF CLEANLINESS AND GOOD HEALTH (Min. of Health Circular 2831)

Health Visitors impress on mothers and expectant mothers the importance of cleanliness and freedom from vermin, and concentrate largely on the homes which they know to be the least satisfactory in this respect.

Fine tooth combs are supplied on loan, and Lethane hair oil is available for cases needing treatment.

Posters dealing with vermin, issued by the Central Council for Health Education, are exhibited in various parts of the Borough.

NUTRITION.

NATIONAL DRIED MILK, FRUIT JUICES, Etc.

Particulars of National Dried Milk, Cod Liver Oil, and Fruit Juices distributed to expectant and nursing mothers and to children under five years of age during 1946 are as follows :—

NATIONAL DRIED MILK.	1946.	1945.
Number of packets given free	... .. 1,599	1,041
,, ,, sold at reduced rates	... 30,785	26,041
COD LIVER OIL, FRUIT JUICES, ETC.		
Number of bottles of Cod Liver Oil	... .. 16,978	14,178
,, ,, Fruit Juices	... .. 107,383	112,519
,, ,, Vitamin Capsules	... 2,833	4,551

DRIED MILK (OTHER THAN NATIONAL DRIED MILK).

Sold lb. Packets, 28,037 realising ... £2,673 ls. 6d.

In addition, 126 bottles of Cod Liver Oil and 1,512 bottles of Fruit Juices and 42 tins of National Dried Milk were issued for the use of children in local hospitals, war-time nurseries, etc.

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

No. of persons who were receiving children for reward at Jan. 1st	10
do. on Register at December 31st	... .. 11
No. of children under 9 years on Register at Jan. 1st	... .. 11
do. Deaths of children during the year —
do. Inquests on children dealt with under the Act —
do. Children on Register at December 31st	... .. 13
do. Visits during the year	... .. 79
Health Visitors who are Infant Protection Visitors	... .. 10

INFANT MORTALITY, 1946.

Nett Deaths from Stated Causes in weeks and months under one year of age

CAUSES OF DEATH	Under 1 Week	1—2 Weeks	2—3 Weeks	3—4 Weeks	Total under 1 month	4 Weeks and under 3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year	Deaths in previous year
All causes—Certified Uncertified	27 1	8 —	9 —	6 —	50 1	13 —	12 —	6 —	5 —	86 1	97 —
Small-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria & Croup ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	3	2
Tubercular Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abdom'l Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1
Other Tuberculous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (not Tuber- culous)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions	1	1	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	2
Laryngitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (all forms)	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	1
Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	7	21
Enteritis	—	1	—	—	1	3	3	1	—	2	4
Gastritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	10	13
Syphilis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation, Overlying	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Injury at birth	2	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	2	2
Atelectasis	5	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	3	4
Congenital	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	3
Malformations	4	3	1	4	12	2	—	1	—	15	7
Premature Birth	14	2	5	1	22	—	—	—	—	22	20
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	3	2
Other causes	1	1	1	—	3	2	3	1	—	9	12
Totals	28	8	9	6	51	13	12	6	5	87	97

INFANT MORTALITY, 1946.

INFANT MORTALITY IN THE WARDS.

Ward		Births	Infant Deaths	Infant Mortality Rates per 1,000 Births
New Brighton	1	115	7	60.9
Upper Brighton	2	125	6	48.0
North Liscard	3	142	3	21.1
South Liscard	4	117	5	42.5
North Egremont	5	143	12	83.9
South Egremont	6	166	6	36.1
North Seacombe	7	133	4	30.1
South Seacombe	8	152	9	59.2
Somerville	9	178	11	61.8
Poulton	10	148	5	33.8
Marlowe	11	119	7	58.8
St. Hilary	12	102	3	29.4
Warren	13	107	1	9.3
Wallasey	14	71	—	—
Leasowe	15	105	3	28.5
Moreton	16	122	4	32.8
Saughall Massie	17	14	1	71.8
		2,059	87	42.2

NURSERY PROVISION FOR CHILDREN UNDER FIVE.

Prior to 1st April, 1946, there were four War-time Day Nurseries for Children under five in Wallasey, all the premises being one-storied pre-cast buildings.

Following the decision of the Ministry of Health to modify as from 1st April the arrangements for the day-time care and training of young children, as laid down in Circular 221/45, it was originally decided to retain only the Central Park Nursery as a day nursery. The Oakdale and Somerville Nurseries were to be transferred to the Education Committee for use as Nursery Schools, and the Eastway Nursery closed.

This decision was reversed in March, 1946, when it was decided to continue the Central Park and Oakdale Nurseries as day nurseries.

It was also decided to continue the detached special erection of the Eastway Nursery with places for 30 children and to return to the Education Committee the class-room with accommodation for 25 children, which previously formed part of the Nursery.

The following tables show the number of places and attendances per nursery prior and subsequent to the change.

WAR-TIME NURSERIES.

Average number of children attending in March, 1946.

Nursery	Number of Places	AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCES			
		<i>Exc. Saturdays</i>		<i>For month as a whole</i>	
		0—2's	2—5's	0—2's	2—5's
Somerville	40	8	32	8	31
Eastway	55	16	19	14	16
Central Park	50	18	36	16	32
Oakdale	50	11	35	10	32

DAY NURSERIES.

Average number of children attending in December, 1946.

Nursery	Number of Places	AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCES			
		<i>Exc. Saturdays</i>		<i>For month as a whole</i>	
		0—2's	2—5's	0—2's	2—5's
Eastway	30	6	18	5	16
Central Park	50	15	30	14	28
Oakdale	50	8	40	8	36

The Nurseries are not open on Sundays.

With the exception of the Eastway Nursery all the Nurseries are full and have a waiting list.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

In accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular No. 179/44, dated December, 1944, which authorised the setting up of a service of Domestic Helps, a Supervisor was appointed and the first Help was sent out on 2nd April, 1945.

From that date the demand for the service has grown steadily. At the outset there were only two helpers on the books, but by the end of 1946 this number had increased to 22.

The service of Home Helps, in connection with Maternity cases is operated in conjunction with the Domestic Help Service.

Charges for the services of Helps are assessed on a scale based on T.B. allowances payable under Memo. 266/T.

That the inauguration of this Service has filled a long-felt need in the Borough is borne out by the continued increase in the number of hours worked by Helpers during 1946, i.e., 24,197, as compared with 11,101 for 9 months April-Dec., 1945.

The following figures show the work carried out under both Schemes during the year—

	<i>Domestic Helps</i>	<i>Home Helps</i>	<i>Total</i>
Applications received	323	74	397
Applications accepted and booked	302	72	374
Cases not accepted (outside scope of Scheme or no help available)	5	—	5
Applications cancelled	19	18	37
Cases to which help sent ...	304	65	369
Hours worked by Helpers ...	20,098	4,099	24,197

In addition to the above Scheme, an annual grant of £20 is made to the Women's Service Bureau, Liverpool, who provide Home Helps principally in cases where a residential Help is desirable.

During the year, Home Helps were supplied by the Women's Service Bureau to seven Wallasey cases.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

On the formation of the National Fire Service the responsibility of maintaining an ambulance service for accidents, etc., was transferred from the Watch Committee to the Health Committee.

The number of cases dealt with during 1946 was as follows :—

Street, works and other accidents	...	...	...	435
Cases of sudden illness	...	...	...	124
Private cases	...	...	...	1,529
Public Assistance cases	...	...	...	579
Mortuary Van cases	...	...	...	95
Public Health Dept. cases	...	...	...	82
Total				2,844

CANCER ACT, 1939.

This Act places a duty on County Borough Councils to make arrangements to ensure that the facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of Cancer are adequate and available to all who are, or are suspected to be suffering from Cancer.

The arrangements must include facilities for expert diagnosis and for adequate and efficient treatment both by surgery and by radiotherapy, and a follow-up scheme with the necessary statistical records.

Local Authorities are also asked to collaborate with such existing organisations already providing facilities, either wholly or partially.

The Council's Interim proposals for the provision of these facilities were approved by the Ministry of Health on the 23rd October, 1944, and the arrangements came into operation on the 1st January, 1945. Under these proposals the Council became one of the constituent members of the Liverpool Cancer Control Organisation, and contributes to the costs of the administration of the Scheme on a population basis. The Council is also responsible for the cost of both in-patient and out-patient treatment in approved Hospitals. The following expenditure was incurred during 1946 :—

In-patient Treatment	...	...	£2,872
Out-patient Treatment	...	...	£247
Other expenditure	...	...	£45
			£3,164
Payments to Liverpool Cancer Control Organisation	...	...	£1,070
Total			£4,234

This expenditure ranks for grant under Section 2 of the Cancer Act, 1939.

**CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (Including Tuberculosis) NOTIFIED IN WALLASEY
DURING 1946.**

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	Notifi- cations	Cases notified at ages													Over 65	Ag k
		0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65				
Small-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Dysentery	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2	1	—	—		
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	96	1	2	8	3	6	28	17	5	17	7	1	1	—		
Erysipelas	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	4	11	3	—		
Scarlet Fever	274	2	5	16	13	17	126	58	10	17	6	4	—	—		
Enteric Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—		
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—		
Cerebro-SpinalMeningitis	6	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	1	—	1	—	—		
Poliomyelitis	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Pneumonia	20	1	1	1	1	—	6	1	—	3	—	5	1	—		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	77	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	10	40	8	13	3	—		
Other forms of Tuber- culosis	10	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	3	1	1	—	—		
Measles	465	17	45	53	50	50	234	7	3	6	—	—	—	—		
Whooping Cough	129	16	11	13	20	23	41	3	—	—	1	—	—	—		
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
TOTALS.....	1,118	40	65	92	87	96	441	94	30	98	29	37	8	—		

IMMUNISATION.

During the year, 1,291 children received the full course of Immunisation treatment against Diphtheria.

In addition 1,261 children who had been immunised were Schick-tested. Of these 57 children, or 4.52% proved positive and 55 were re-immunised.

The following table shows the number of children immunised each year from 1935 :—

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF CHILDREN IMMUNISED—BY AGE GROUPS.

Age at Date of Inoculation	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	Total under 5 yrs. of age at 31/12/46 : 3,111
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	21	56	30	27	37	
1 year +	8	6	3	21	5	18	101	357	290	478	835	730	
2 years +	9	22	12	17	13	23	111	309	251	78	168	160	
3 years +	10	38	11	24	10	27	115	295	169	58	60	91	
4 years +	11	125	65	31	12	30	101	306	144	51	39	50	
5 years +	90	313	160	206	29	45	136	308	152	82	63	59	
6 years +	60	221	114	230	10	44	85	243	223	68	45	45	
7 years +	35	110	65	120	15	20	76	220	118	37	22	23	
8 years +	9	25	13	6	3	2	47	247	120	51	22	21	
9 years +	2	13	6	—	—	4	41	238	96	74	43	15	
10 years +	4	4	—	1	2	3	45	228	115	44	24	16	
11 years +	2	3	1	1	1	4	27	188	107	60	19	13	
12 years +	—	3	1	—	—	4	22	203	110	39	12	13	
13 years +	—	4	—	—	4	1	22	237	135	64	12	11	
14 years +	1	2	—	—	2	—	9	57	101	20	1	5	
15 years +	—	—	—	—	3	—	4	21	45	17	7	1	
Over 16 years	4	—	—	—	1	5	1	12	31	6	12	1	
Total	245	889	451	657	110	230	951	3,490	2,263	1,257	1,411	1,291	

PUBLIC HEALTH (SMALL-POX PREVENTION) REGULATIONS, 1917.

No primary vaccinations or re-vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

VACCINATION.

Statement of Vaccination for year ending 31st December, 1945.

Births (returned in Birth List Sheets)	...	...	...	1,326
Successfully vaccinated	...	...	...	558
Insusceptible	...	...	...	1
Had Smallpox	...	...	...	—
Died unvaccinated	...	...	...	59
Postponed by Medical Authority	...	...	...	13
Certificates of Exemption (Conscientious objection)	...	...	...	211
Removals certified	...	...	...	8
Removals not found and not accounted for	...	...	...	13
Vaccinations at Clinics	...	...	...	1,419
Re-inspections at Clinics	...	...	...	1,512

A slight outbreak of Small-pox in a neighbouring town in the second quarter of the year caused many people to be vaccinated either at the Clinics or at the Surgeries of Public Vaccinators or General Practitioners in the town.

MEASLES.

425 cases were notified and 40 reported during 1946. One of the cases proved fatal.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

120 cases were notified and 9 reported during the year. One of the cases proved fatal.

SCABIES.

Owing to the increase in the number of cases of Scabies, a treatment centre was opened in May, 1941 at the New Street Clinic. and has continued daily ever since. 314 cases were treated during the year, and 142 patients were re-examined. 10 of these were found to require further treatment. In addition a few cases who were unable to attend at the Clinic were given out-patient treatment at the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Mill Lane.

DISINFECTION.

Visits to houses <i>re</i> disinfections	...	...	...	...	...	298
Rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	257
Books from Public, Private, or School Libraries disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	452
Articles disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	4,650

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The accompanying table gives particulars of the cases admitted to Mill Lane Infectious Diseases Hospital during 1946 :—

			In Hospital 1st Jan. 1946	Ad- mitted 1946	Dis- charged	Died	In Hospital 31st Dec. 1946	
Scarlet Fever	...	...	22	205	213	—	14	
Diphtheria	...	...	6	49	50	2	3	1 sent in as S.F.
Tonsillitis	...	...	—	44	43	—	1	41 sent in as Diph.
Measles	...	...	—	8	8	—	—	1 sent in as S.F.
Rubella	...	...	—	2	1	—	1	1 sent in as S.F.
								1 sent in as S.F.
Whooping Cough	...	...	—	3	3	—	—	1 sent in as Measles
Broncho-Pneumonia	...	...	—	1	—	1	—	2 sent in with Br. Pn.
Ac. Polio. Myelitis	...	...	—	1	—	1	—	Sent in as S.F.
Typhoid	...	...	—	1	1	—	—	
Diph. Carriers	...	...	—	2	2	—	—	
Aphthous Virlostis	...	...	—	1	1	—	—	Sent in as Diph.
Rhinorrhoea	...	...	—	1	1	—	—	Sent in as Diph.
Erysipelas	...	...	—	7	7	—	—	Sent in as Diph.
Dermatitis	...	...	—	1	1	—	—	
Septic Abortion	...	...	—	1	1	—	—	Sent in as Erysipelas
C.S.F. ...	...	...	—	1	1	—	—	
Concussion	...	...	—	1	1	—	—	
Chicken Pox	...	...	—	4	4	—	—	Sent in as C.S.F.
Nil. Disease	...	...	—	2	2	—	—	
								1 sent in as C.S.F.
								1 sent in as S.F.
			28	335	340	4	19	

Deaths.

Diphtheria.—1 Laryngeal, not immunised, moribund on admission and died in 35 mins. (Visitor from Wolverhampton).

2. A Mongolian Imbecile, not immunised.

Immunisation.

11 cases had received full course of immunisation between 1938 and 1945, and of these 4 had shown a negative Schick Reaction. All were mild cases without complications. All had positive swabs.

Another 7 cases reported immunisation, but no record was available or they were known not to have completed the course.

Scarlet Fever.

Complications. Arthritis 11, Otorrhoea 8, Double Otorrhoea 2, Nephritis 1, Albumenaria 1, Mastoiditis 2, Peri tons. abscess 1, Empyema 1, Urticaria 3, Abscess 3, Tonsillitis 1, Tb. Spine (O.A.) 2, Bronchitis 1, Erysipelas (O.A.) 1, Chicken-pox 3, Septic Fingers 2, Whooping Cough (O.A.) 1, Eczema (O.A.) 1, Impetigo (O.A.) 1, Herpes 1, Secondary Rash 2.

Operations.—Resection of rib 1, Tympanic Paracentesis 1, Mastoidectomy 1.

Consultations.—13.

Return cases.—5.

Diphtheria.

Complications.—Palatal Paralysis 4, Strabismus 3, Vaginitis 1, Otitis media 1, Cervical Abscess 2, V.D.H. (O.A.) 1.

Consultations.—1.

TUBERCULOSIS.

	<u>1946</u>	<u>1945</u>	<u>1944</u>	<u>1943</u>
No. of Tuberculous cases on Register 31st December	396	442	429	409
„ „ New cases attended Disp. ...	525	521	620	675
Diagnosed as suffering from Tuberculosis	68	80	70	95
„ „ suffering from Malnutrition	2	—	5	7
Sent by General Practitioners ...	295	304	305	336
Contacts	141	174	142	198
Sent by Services (H.M.F.)	34	16	34	33
„ „ School Medical Officer ...	20	11	58	63

ATTENDANCES.

MILL LANE DISPENSARY. Tub. Cases and Suspects		MILL LANE DISPENSARY. Malnutrition	
Males	1,018	Children	110
Females	717	No. of children	
Children	486	attended	12
<hr/> 2,221 <hr/>			

Malnutrition in Wallasey has practically ceased to exist.

CONTACTS.

The number of contacts was 141 (65 adults, 76 children)

Of the Adults :—

No. of persons found to be suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	4
No. of persons found to be suffering from Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	Nil
Diagnosed Non-tubercular	61

Of the children :—

No. found to be suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	2
„ „ „ „ Non-Pulmonary „ ...	Nil
No. found to be suffering from Malnutrition	2
Still under observation... ..	14
No evidence of any disease	58

Nearly 100% of the contacts attended the Dispensary for Medical and X-ray examination.

Practically all the cases notified by Medical Practitioners attended the Dispensary for advice and treatment, which indicates the close co-operation which exists between the General Practitioners of the district and the Dispensary.

SOURCE OF NOTIFICATION.

		Pul.	Tub.	Non-pul.	Tub.
		1946	1945	1946	1945
Notified by General					
	Practitioners ...	45	44	6	4
„	Tuberculosis				
	Officer ...	4	11	—	1
„	H.M.F. and				
	Hospital ...	28	32	4	8

NOTIFICATIONS—PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 77 Notifications (50 male, 27 female) including 10 from His Majesty's Forces, plus 25 transfers from other areas and 7 from Death Returns—decrease of 10 from 1945.

NOTIFICATIONS—NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 10 Notifications (2 males, 8 females) including 1 from H.M.F. plus 1 transfer from other areas, and 7 from Death Returns.

Table showing New cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health otherwise than by formal notification.

Age Periods	0-	1-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	Total
Pulmonary Males	—	—	2	—	1	5	7	3	2	1	—	21
„ Females	—	—	—	—	1	1	5	2	—	1	1	11
Non-pulmonary Males	1	1	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	6
„ Females	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Total												40

The source from which information as to the above cases was obtained was as follows :—

Source of information		No. of cases	
		Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Death Returns	From local Registrars	1	4
	Transferable deaths from Registrar General	4	2
Posthumus notifications		2	1
“ Transfers ” from other areas (other than transferable deaths)		25	1
Other sources		—	—
Total		32	8

CLASSIFICATION OF NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

Bones—2. Abdomens—4, Other Organs—2, Glands neck—2.

DEATHS.				Pulmonary Tuberculosis.		
				1946	1945	1944
No. of deaths	...	...	..	55	47	37
Cases died within two years of notification	...	...	...	31	30	26
Non. notified deaths	...	...	...	8	8	4
				Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis.		
				1946	1945	1944
No. of deaths	...	...	...	9	8	13
Died within two years of notification	...	...	...	1	1	2
Non-notified deaths	...	...	...	7	7	6

Although there were fewer notifications of Tuberculosis in 1946, there was a great increase in deaths, chiefly amongst the chronic cases, who do not appear to be standing up to present day conditions.

INSTITUTIONS.

There is a Block containing 22 beds at Mill Lane Hospital.

There are also 16 beds available for Wallasey cases at the Cheshire Joint Sanatorium, Nr. Market Drayton, Salop, for early cases and cases requiring operative treatment.

One female bed was loaned to Cheshire County Council during 1946.

MILL LANE HOSPITAL.

	Adults	Children	Total
Remaining 1st January, 1946	12	—	12
Admitted during 1946	40	1	41
Discharged during 1946	26	1	27
Fatal during 1946	5	—	5
Remaining December 31st, 1946	21	—	21

There were no male deaths in the T.B. Block during 1946.

RESULTS.

Patients discharged "Much improved"	...	...	3
"Improved"	...	...	20
"No material improvement"	...	...	4
Of the 27 discharges :—			
Working full time	...	...	6
Unfit for work	...	...	4
Working part time	...	...	4
Left the district	...	...	1
Re-admitted to Hospital	...	...	2
Transferred to Cheshire Joint Sanatorium	...	...	9
Unfit for school	...	...	1

CHESHIRE JOINT SANATORIUM.	Male	Female	Total
Remaining 1st January 1946	7	8	15
Admitted during 1946	11	6	17
Discharged during 1946	11	6	17
Remaining December 31st, 1946	7	8	15

Of the 17 discharges :—			
Working full time	...	...	2
Working part time	...	...	4
Unfit for work	...	...	7
Fit for light work, but unemployed	...	...	4

LEASOWE HOSPITAL.

	Adults	Children	Total
Remaining 1st January 1946 ...	2	7	9
Admitted during year ...	2	1	3
Discharged during year ...	2	4	6
Remaining December 31st, 1946 ...	2	4	6
Of the 6 discharges :—			
Left the district...	...	1	} children
At school regularly ...	...	3	
Working part time ...	...	1	
Transferred to T.B. Block, Mill Lane Hospital	1	Adults	

BIRKENHEAD MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL.

Remaining 1st January, 1946	...	...	...	...	7
Admitted during year ...	...	...	...	...	19
Discharged during year ...	...	...	...	...	14
Died ...	...	...	...	...	5
Remaining 31st December, 1946	...	...	...	...	7
Of the 14 discharges :—					
Left the district...	...	...	...	...	1
Since died ...	...	...	...	...	1
Working part time ...	...	...	...	...	1
Unable to work ...	...	...	...	...	4
Transferred to T.B. Block, Mill Lane Hospital	...	...	...	...	5
Admitted to Cheshire Joint Sanatorium	...	...	...	...	1
Working full time ...	...	...	...	...	1

TREATMENT OF PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

Total number of Artificial Pneumothorax refills given during the year, 439 (301 males, 138 females)—17 more than in 1945.

MALES 22

13 continuing treatment

Working constantly	...	...	...	Nil
Working part time	...	...	...	2
Not working	...	...	...	1
Unfit for work	...	...	...	9 (Army Pensioners)
In-patient T.B. Block, Mill Lane Hospital	1			

FEMALES 13

4 continuing treatment

Working full time	...	...	...	1
Working part time	...	...	...	2
Visitor only	...	...	...	1

SPUTUM.

No. of specimens examined for Tubercle Bacilli ...	...	210
No. found to contain Tubercle ...	...	49

HOUSING.

Of the 77 notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis—

- 44 Slept in separate bed and room.
- 7 Slept in separate bed, but shared room.
- 13 Shared bed and room (chiefly married couples).
- 2 Notified by the County Mental Hospital
- 6 Admitted direct from Services and still in Sanatorium
- 2 Left the district before visit
- 2 Not visited by request of Medical Practitioner.
- 1 Admitted straight from Institution.

TUBERCULIN SKIN TESTS.

Of the 28 children tested, 15 were contacts of Tuberculosis, 6 of which showed a positive re-action. Of the 13 non-contacts, 4 showed a positive re-action.

814 chest X-ray examinations were made, plus 48 Orthopaedic cases, compared with 818 chests and 30 Orthopaedic in 1945.

No. of visits to homes in 1946—Wallasey 1,123, Moreton 194, Total 1,217.

AFTER CARE.

The work of the Voluntary Tuberculosis Care Committee has continued to progress. The Leather Handicraft classes were continued during 1946 and the membership increased to the extent that an application for a larger permit for leather was granted by the Ministry of Supply.

The Sanatorium patients, who are fit enough, now come down to the class, This makes a welcome break in the week, and is looked forward to by the patients.

The Committee hope to vary the handicrafts as soon as possible, and introduce lamp-shade making, rugs, etc.

Two ladies of the Committee have 'adopted' the T.B. Block, and arrange Whist Drives, Concerts, etc., to brighten the monotony of the patients' long days. These ladies visit the Block once weekly, and their visits are very much looked forward to by the patients.

The Committee have been able to give many grants of money to sick patients in their homes, also beds and bedding have been bought, and distributed to necessitous cases.

MEMO. 266/T.

Under the provisions of the above Memorandum 32 patients have received Treatment Allowances during 1946—12 of whom were recommended during the year under review, including one Special payment. 13 patients were receiving allowances on 31st December, 1946, including one special payment.

VENEREAL DISEASE.

The number of new cases for 1946 was 94—an increase of 12 over 1945. After deducting the Non-venereal cases, the number of definite cases was 48, which is 20 more than in 1945.

ATTENDANCES.

	1946	1945	1944
Males	225	162	272
Females	242	409	504

The following are particulars of the 48 cases of V.D. :—

<i>Syphilis.</i>				<i>Gonorrhoea.</i>		
	1946	1945	1944	1946	1945	1944
Males	9	1	7	19	10	2
Females	8	9	11	12	8	15

An increase in Male patients owing to demobilization.

48 specimens in connections with the clinic were examined at the Laboratory, Mill Lane Dispensary—100 specimens of blood were sent from the Clinic for Wassermann re-action Meinicke test.

Information has always been sought for and advice given to patients proceeding to other areas, re hours and places of attendance.

DEFENCE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 33B.

Form 1 :—

2 males, 3 females named as contacts ; 4 attended, 1 unable to trace.

No cases named on two or more Forms 1.

Contact Tracing :—

- | | |
|--|----|
| (1) Secured as a result of persuasion by original patients | 24 |
| (2) Persuaded to attend by Social worker, though not named on Form 1 | 4 |

Return of Wallasey Residents treated in Liverpool and Birkenhead during the year.

			<i>Liverpool</i>			<i>Birkenhead.</i>		
			1946	1945	1944	1946	1945	1944
Syphilis	...	...	17	10	10	13	13	8
Chancre	...	...	2	1	—	—	—	—
Gonorrhoea	...	...	46	29	23	53	30	10
Conditions other than Venereal	...	...	89	72	39	40	46	22
			—	—	—	—	—	—
			154	112	72	106	89	40
			—	—	—	—	—	—
Total attendances of all cases	...	...	1090	798	870	2503	1407	923

MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS.

REGISTRATION.

The number of Mentally defective persons on our Register excluding children being dealt with under the Education Committee at January 1st was 235 (117 males, 118 females). The number at December 31st was 244 (122 males, 122 females).

The number of visits paid during the year to Mentally defective persons was 221.

The following information is supplied at the request of the
BOARD OF CONTROL.

Particulars of Mental Defectives as on 1st January, 1947.

A.—Number of mental defectives ascertained to be “Subject to be dealt with” :—

	M.	F.	T.
1. Under “Order” :—			
(a) (1) In Institutions (excl. cases on Licence)—			
Under 16 years of age	4	2	6
Aged 16 yrs. and over	36	41	77
(2) On Licence from Insti- Under 16 years of age	—	—	—
tutions Aged 16 yrs. and over	4	8	12
(b) Under Guardianship ... Under 16 years of age	—	—	—
(incl. cases on Licence) Aged 16 yrs. and over	3	8	11
2. In “places of safety” Under 16 years of age	4	1	5
Aged 16 yrs. and over	—	—	—
3. Under Statutory Supervision	26	27	53
<i>Of whom, awaiting removal to an Institution</i>	—	1	1
4. Action not yet taken under any one of the above headings	—	—	—

B.—Number of mental defectives not at present “subject to be dealt with” but for whom the Local Authority may subsequently become liable ...

<i>Of whom, number under Voluntary Supervision</i>	45	35	80
Number of cases on the Registers of Occupation and Industrial Centres	29	20	49
	10	7	17

During the year 1946.

1. Cases reported by Local Education Authorities (Section 57, Education Act, 1944).	M.	F.	T.
Reported under Section 57 (3)	4	5	9
,, ,, ,, 57 (5)	—	—	—
Total reported during 1946	4	5	9

Method of disposal :—

	M.	F.	T.
Sent to Institutions (by Order)	—	—	—
Placed under Guardianship (do.)	—	—	—
,, under Statutory Supervision	3	5	8
Taken to “Place of Safety”	—	—	—
Died or Removed from Area	1	—	1
Action not yet taken	—	—	—
Total	4	5	9

2. Of the total number of mental defectives known to the Local Authority—

(a) Number who have given birth to children during 1946 :—

(1) After marriage—0.

(2) While unmarried—0.

Males. Females.

(b) Number who have married during 1946

The following is a list of Institutions in which Wallasey mentally defective persons were accommodated at the end of the year, and the number of such persons in each, admitted "Under Order."

CASES IN INSTITUTIONS.

	M.	F.
Ashton House, Birkenhead	—	4
Birkenhead Municipal Hospital	3	1
Caersws Institution, North Wales	3	3
Cranage Hall, near Northwich	18	28
Etloe House, Leyton	—	1
Gillibrand Hall, near Chorley	—	1
Mary Dendy Home, Sandlebridge	1	1
Monkton Hall	1	—
Royal Albert Institution, Lancaster	7	2
Stoke Park Colony, near Bristol... ..	2	—
Forden Public Assistance Institution	3	1
Royal Earlswood Institution	1	—
Besford Court, Worcester	1	—
Hortham Colony	—	1
	—	—
	40	43
	—	—

OCCUPATION CENTRE.

The Council decided in 1945 to open an Occupation Centre for Mentally Defective Children, and acquired the premises in Hale Road, previously known as the Liscard High School for Boys.

The buildings were approved by the Board of Control, and after adaptation, were opened on the 3rd June, 1946. Within a few days of opening sixteen children attended.

The Centre is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays to Fridays, and closed for holidays for one month during the summer, and approximately four weeks during the remainder of the year.

The children so far admitted vary in age from 5 to 16 years, and experience has shown that they soon settle down and are anxious to attend.

Mid-day meals are provided from Mill Lane Hospital and partaken on the premises. One-third of a pint of milk is also supplied to each child at 10-30 a.m. and 3 p.m.

The crafts taught include plain sewing, embroidery and knitting for the girls, woodwork, rush seating and rug-making for the boys, and for boys and girls papier-mache work, painting, drawing, gardening, stool making, raffia work, miniature basket work, etc. etc. The children also receive instruction in reading, writing, spelling and simple arithmetic.

Towards the end of the year arrangements were made with the Birkenhead Corporation to accept Defectives from that area; eighteen Birkenhead children first attended on the 9th December, 1946. At the end of December, 1946, sixteen Wallasey and twenty Birkenhead children were on the Register.

BLIND PERSONS ACTS, 1920-1938.

The duties of the Council under the Blind Persons Acts, 1920-1938, are administered by the Health Committee.

A second Home Teacher was appointed and commenced duty on 2nd December, 1946.

4,359 visits were made to blind persons during 1946.

REGISTRATION OF BLIND PERSONS.

	M.	F.	Totals
No. on Register at January 1st	75	102	177
No. added during the year :—			
New Cases	7	14	21
Transfers from other towns	3	1	4
Totals ...	85	117	202

	M.	F.	T.
No. of Removals from Register owing to :—			
Leaving Wallasey	1	2	3
Death	7	2	9
Totals ...	8	4	12

No. on Register at December 31st ...	77	113	190
--------------------------------------	----	-----	-----

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

No. of Wallasey cases receiving assistance from this Authority at January 1st, 1946	93
No. receiving assistance at December 31st, 1946	96
Amount disbursed by way of allowances, January to December, 1946	£5,468 18s. 7d.
No. of Wallasey cases receiving assistance from other Authorities at 1st January, 1946	14
No. receiving assistance at 31st December, 1946	13
Amount disbursed by way of allowances to these cases January to December	£1,045 10s. 1d.
No. of cases assisted by this Authority and rechargeable to other Authorities at 1st January, 1946	17
No. receiving assistance at 31st December, 1946	17
Amount disbursed by way of Allowances January to December	£1,065 4s. 2d.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

During the twelve months ending 31st December, 1946, 31 people were examined by Dr. W. Dunlop Hamilton, of whom 22 were found to be blind, while 9 could not be certified. Of the 22 people certified as blind, blindness occurred in the following age groups :

Under 20 years of age—1.

20-30 years of age	1	30-40 years of age	1
40-50 ,, ,,	1	50-60 ,, ,,	2
60-70 ,, ,,	6	Over 70 years of age	10

REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

This work is carried out under the direction of the Borough Surveyor. There are no ashpits in the Borough. Particulars as to the quantities of refuse and salvage disposed of in the past year are as under :—

House, &c., Refuse—				T.	C.	Q.
Delivered to Refuse Disposal Works ...				—	—	—
Quantity tipped away				22,900	8	0
				22,900	8	0
Salvage, &c., material				2,976	6	0
				25,876	14	0

Wet refuse collected in added areas and delivered to farms, 104 loads.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF EMPLOYEES.

The number of employees examined during the year, at the request of the various Departments, was 141. The Departments concerned were :—

Town Clerk	2
Education	37
Borough Treasurer	31
Borough Engineer and Surveyor ...	12
Public Health	18
Libraries	9
Gas and Water	4
Electricity	20
Housing	2
Motor Bus	6
	—
	141
	—

PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT.

During the year the following applications were received :—

For registration	40
For re-registration	107

All applications were granted.

Proceedings were instituted against two traders for selling Lysol without being registered. Fines of £2 and £1 were imposed.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

During the year 160 samples of milk and 220 samples of other food and drink were analysed ; twenty-five of the milk samples being reported as below standard ; 16 of these samples were taken from milk coming to Wallasey dairymen from farms outside the borough, and although of poor quality were not adulterated.

Proceedings were instituted in the following instances :—

Milk 2% deficient of Fat. Milk 21% deficient of Fat. Case dismissed.

Milk 17% deficient of fat. Case dismissed.

For selling two samples of milk each containing 13% added water a vendor was fined £15 with £1 11s. 6d. costs. Later in the year the same vendor was fined £50 for selling milk containing 10% added water. This vendor is no longer in business.

In two cases where the deficiencies were slight the sellers were warned.

Of the samples other than milk six were incorrectly labelled ; in three the adulteration was very slight and the sellers were cautioned.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT.

21 samples of Fertiliser and 3 samples of Feeding Stuffs were submitted for analysis and all complied with the requirements of the Act.

CONTROL AND SUPERVISION OF MILK SUPPLIES. (Biological Examination).

The following is a summary of milk sampling carried out during the year :—

The following table relates to supplies of Raw Milk only and includes Tuberculin Tested, Accredited and Non-designated milks :—

	1946	1945	1944	1943
Number of samples taken ...	181	272	182	116
Number of Positive Results (TB)	11	36	15	8
Percentage	6.08	13.23	8.24	6.89

Analysis of the figures referred to above, with special reference to the grades of milk and the incidence of Bovine Tuberculosis :—

Description of Milk	Number of Samples submitted	Results of Tests	
		Positive	Negative
Certified Milk	2	—	2
Tuberculin Tested	25	—	25
Accredited (taken on production)	3	1	2
Undesignated	151	10	141
	181	11	170

The following is a tabulation of the results of the investigations carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries at the farms from which the infected supplies of milk were being received into the Borough.

Number of investigations completed without any offending animal having been found in the Herd, due to either the cows having gone dry or having been sold since the original sample was obtained ...	Tuberculosis Order, 1938	
	No. of cases investigated	No. of Milk Cows slaughtered
Number of investigations completed which resulted in each case in the slaughter of one milk cow under the Tuberculosis Order 1938	4	—
Number of investigations completed which resulted in each case in the slaughter of two milk cows ...	6	6
Number of investigations completed which resulted in each case in the slaughter of three milk cows ...	—	—
Number of investigations completed which resulted in each case in the slaughter of three milk cows ...	1	3
	11	9

Note.—The 9 milk cows referred to above involved 7 dairy herds.

Milk Production within the Borough.

The number of registered Cow Keepers in the Borough remains at eleven, including five licensed producers of Accredited Milk. Samples of milk were obtained on production and 45 visits were made to the farms during the year.

Registered Dairies.

There are 36 registered Dairies dealing in supplies of Raw Milk. In a number of instances, designated milks are also handled, the latter under licence issued by the Local Authority under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936-44.

Two Dairies are dealing solely in supplies of Tuberculin Tested Milk, and in 5 cases, licences are held authorising the use of the designation "Pasteurised" in relation to milk processed at the Dairy premises. Pasteurised Milk is frequently described as "Heat-treated." The statutory tests to which this grade of milk must conform are precisely the same as for Pasteurised Milk. In addition to the registered Dairies, there are 55 shops from which milk is retailed in sealed bottles as received from the suppliers. Such premises are not Dairies, but the proprietors are registered as purveyors of milk in accordance with the requirements of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

No. of visits to Dairy Premises ... 285

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936-44.

The number of licences granted during the year were as follows:—

(1) To bottle and retail Tuberculin Tested Milk	3
(2) To retail bottled Tuberculin Tested Milk ...	8
(3) To produce Pasteurised Milk ...	5
(4) To bottle and retail Pasteurised Milk ...	1
(5) To produce Accredited Milk ...	5

Tuberculin Tested Milk.
(Bacteriological Examination).

Number of samples taken	27
Number of samples satisfactory	14
Number of samples unsatisfactory	13

The Bacteriological Standards for Tuberculin Tested Milk require that each sample shall satisfy a Methylene Blue Test, and Coliform Organisms shall not be present in one hundredth of a millilitre. Of the 13 unsatisfactory samples, 5 failed to satisfy both tests, 7 failed to satisfy the requirements of the Coliform Test. The remaining sample failed to satisfy the Methylene Blue Test.

Two samples of Certified Milk (i.e., T.T. Milk bottled on the farm), are included in the above figures. One sample proved satisfactory, the other failed to comply with the requirements of the Coliform Test.

Accredited Milk.

One sample of Accredited Milk was submitted for examination and the report revealed that the milk conformed to Accredited standard.

Pasteurised Milk.

Samples of Pasteurised Milk were submitted for Biological Testing in order to safeguard against the danger of tuberculous infection, and Chemical Testing to ascertain that the milk had been adequately Heat-treated and conformed to the required standards for keeping quality.

Heat-treated Milk includes Sterilized Milk, Tuberculin Tested Milk—Pasteurised, and supplies of ordinary Pasteurised Milk. Under the Heat-treated Milk (Prescribed Tests) Order, 1944, standard tests are prescribed for Heat-treated Milk, as follows:—

- (a) Methylene Blue Test for Keeping Quality.
- (b) Phosphatase Test for adequate Heat-treatment.

During the year, 125 samples of processed milk were submitted for testing, of these, 100 satisfied both tests, of the 25 unsatisfactory samples, 6 failed to satisfy both tests, 8 revealed failure to the Phosphatase Test and 11 failed to satisfy the requirements of the Methylene Blue Test. Of the foregoing samples, 87 were submitted to the Guinea Pig Inoculation Test for Tuberculosis. The following is a tabulation of the results of the tests:—

Description of Milk	Number of samples submitted	Results of Biological tests	
		Positive	Negative
Sterilized Milk	—	—	—
T.T. Milk Pasteurised	3	—	3
Pasteurised Milk	84	—	84
	87	—	87

It will be noted that 14 samples failed to satisfy the requirements of the Phosphatase Test indicating either inadequate Heat-treatment or the addition of Raw Milk after processing. Of these samples, 11

were submitted for Guinea Pig Inoculation and are included in the figures shown in the preceding table.

The samples were obtained from the following sources :—

From Dairies	...	...	...	87
„ Schools	...	...	...	28
„ Day Nurseries	...	...	...	4
„ Hospitals	...	...	...	1
„ Street Delivery Vehicles	...	...	...	5
				125

Milk in Schools Scheme.

During the year, 2,309,740 third pint bottles (98,239 gallons, 1.1/3 pints) were supplied under the Milk in Schools Scheme.

The Schools in the Borough are catered for by 7 Milk Purveyors, Pasteurised Milk being supplied.

In the sampling figures referred to above, it will be noted that 28 samples were obtained from milk supplied under the Milk in Schools Scheme, and were submitted for Biological Testing (for Tuberculosis), all being negative.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

A statutory obligation is imposed upon all Dairymen under the above order requiring that all milk vessels and dairy equipment, including milk bottles, be kept at all times in a state of thorough cleanliness. All registered premises are equipped with washing and sterilizing apparatus for this purpose.

Many milk bottles when returned to the respective Dairies are in a filthy condition, and much extra time and special effort is needed in their sorting, cleansing and sterilization.

Milk which has been delivered in unclean bottles has, on a number of occasions, been the subject of complaint to the Health Department. Complaints of this nature could be completely avoided if all consumers would rinse their bottles with cold water immediately after use and return them to their suppliers without delay.

When milk bottles which have been pre-rinsed, are placed in the washing and sterilizing units at the respective Dairies, a completely clean and sterile bottle will always result. During the year, warnings were issued to a number of Dairymen concerning milk delivered in unclean bottles. No proceedings were instituted. A number of special complaints were investigated during the year concerning the alleged sale of unwholesome milk.

Supervision and Inspection of Meat and Food Supplies.

Inspections made at food shops including Butchers, Fishmongers and Food preparing premises, resulted in the disposal of the following quantities of Food as unfit for the purpose of sale for human consumption.

MEAT :									
	Home Killed	8	lbs.						
	Imported	136½	lbs.						
	Sausage	4	lbs.						
FISH :									
Cod	910	lbs.	Cured Herrings	...	84	lbs.	
Cured Cod	392	lbs.	(Kipperd)				
(Smoked)					Plaice	140	lbs.

FISH : (continued)

Haddock ...	... 224 lbs.	Smoked Whiting	
Cured Haddock ...	210 lbs.	Fillets ...	... 336 lbs.
(Smoked)		Sea Bream ...	... 70 lbs.
Hake ...	... 210 lbs.	Crabs ...	... 98 lbs.
Herrings ...	... 441 lbs.	636 Fishcakes	
Total Weight—3,115 lbs.			

MISCELLANEOUS FOODS :

Cheese ...	... 93 lbs.	Oranges ...	... 43 cases
Sultanas ...	...151½ lbs.	Garden Peas ...	40 lbs.
Dates ...	... 140 lbs.	Nuts ...	... 19 lbs.
		Crumpets ...	... 456

There were also 1,709 containers of miscellaneous food products comprising meat, fish, vegetables, etc., found to be unfit for human consumption.

In addition, in a number of instances, meat found on inspection to be unsound at Butcher's Shops, was diverted to the depots of the Wholesale Meat Suppliers Association, and replacements to the Butchers were made through this channel.

A number of special complaints were received with regard to the sale of food alleged to be unsound. 184 visits were paid to food premises and 296 certificates were issued in respect of unsound food.

Wallasey and Alfred Lairages.

During the year, the landing place was re-opened under authority of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Animals landed included Dairy Cattle from Canada and Fat and Store Cattle from Ireland. All animals, on landing, are subject to Veterinary examination by Inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and a quarantine period is imposed before animals are entrained for their various destinations.

Animals found to be unfit for travel by reason of injury or illness are slaughtered, and slaughtering was reverted to in 46 instances. In each case, post mortem inspection of the carcase and viscera were carried out by this department, and the following meat and offal was found to be unfit for human consumption :—

Carcase	Heads including Tongues	Lungs including Hearts	Liver	Cause of Condemnation
Part of Muscular Tissue	—	—	—	Bruising
—	4	—	—	Tuberculosis
—	1	—	—	Actinomycosis
—	—	7	—	Tuberculosis
—	—	6	—	Abcess Formation
—	—	2	—	Congestion and Adhesians
—	—	—	34	Distoma—
—	—	—	(whole)	Liver Fluke
—	—	—	11	Distoma—
—	—	—	(parts)	Liver Fluke

Total weight of meat and offal unfit for Human Consumption 725 lbs.
No. of visits—104.

Administration of Diseases of Animals Acts and Orders.

There were no suspected cases of notifiable contagious diseases received during the year. The Borough was also free from inclusion in any of the areas which were scheduled under the Foot and Mouth Disease Order.

All Sheep and Lambs grazing in the Borough were compulsory dipped in accordance with the terms of the Dipping Regulations. Visits were made to the grazing lands in order to ascertain that the animals were being properly cared for.

The Warble Fly (Dressing of Cattle) Order, 1938, remains suspended.

During the year, 403 Store Pigs were moved under licence from the County Market, Chester, to Pig Keepers premises in the Borough.

Pigs which have been moved in accordance with the terms of a Movement Licence, must remain on the premises to which they are destined until a period of 28 days has elapsed.

Inspections have been made to farms, piggeries and other premises to ascertain that the requirements of the Movement of Swine Order, 1922, were being observed, and 115 visits were made for this purpose.

As the result of a collision in the Mersey involving the outward bound passenger liner " Empire Brent " and the inward bound cargo vessel " Stormont " carrying a general cargo from Ireland, including cattle and horses, 13 carcasses (including that of a horse) were washed up at various points of the Wallasey Foreshore. Beachcombers attempted to remove the flesh of certain carcasses. Intervention, however, by the Medical Officer, coupled with police assistance, resulted in the practice being stopped. All of the carcasses were subsequently removed to the local Refinery for conversion into animal feeding stuffs and non-edible products.

Public Health (Shell Fish) Regulation, 1934.

The taking of Mussels and Cockles for the purpose of sale for human consumption, from the layings on the Wallasey Foreshore, is prohibited. Evidence in support of any prosecution under the above regulations, must show that the Shell Fish had been taken for the purpose of sale for human consumption. The fact that persons have been observed during the year removing Shell Fish from these layings, is not evidence that they were being taken for the purpose of sale. Proof in this regard is most difficult to obtain, and no contraventions were recorded.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

Abatement of Nuisances.

The increase in the need for post-war repairs to house property, shown in the statistics for the previous year, continues to be reflected in the large number of complaints received from householders throughout the Borough. During the year 1946, a total of 6,197 complaints were received and were investigated by five District Sanitary Inspectors. Arising out of these complaints it was necessary for 10,284 visits to be made to dwelling houses, as a result of which 5,291 Preliminary Notices and 1,984 Statutory Notices were served.

The increased demands made on the staff of Sanitary Inspectors in this sphere of their work have rendered it impossible to continue the practice of automatic re-inspection upon expiration of a Notice. Nevertheless, during the year 6,029 re-visits were made to dwelling houses which had been made the subject of Nuisance Notices. Period of time-lapse between service of Notice and eventual abatement of nuisances, has, of course, considerably lengthened by comparison with pre-war practice. This is due to scarcity of building materials and the necessity for possession of Building Licences in many cases. The admixture of defects giving rise to nuisances with 'damage' alleged to be due to enemy action is also a retarding factor in the Sanitary Inspectors' problem of achieving prompt abatement of nuisances in house property. Accompanying this problem is the sequel condition that the expansion in the number of complaints from householders and the increased number of visits necessary to implement the service of Nuisance Notices, reduces the ability of the Inspectorial Staff to carry out spontaneous visits to such establishments as Factories, Food Preparing Premises, Bakehouses, Restaurants, Boarding Houses, etc.

The supreme necessity to conserve building materials required for the provision of new housing accommodation has imposed a large degree of redundancy on the operation of Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936. Even so, the diverse defects tabulated below were dealt with under the Public Health Act, 1936, and portend the vast nature of the task of house-repair which will confront Sanitary Inspectors, Builders and owners of property when building materials are available for use on existing properties.

Nuisances discovered in Dwelling Houses.

Defective and/or choked drains	...	...	...	620
Defective water service pipes, cylinders, etc.	...	...	...	669
Defective ashbins	...	...	...	1,364
Defective W.C. basins, cisterns, joints, etc.	...	...	...	670
Defective structures of W.C. apartments	...	...	...	295
Defective yard surfaces	...	...	...	146
Defective sashcords, frames to windows, etc.	...	...	...	553
Insufficient light or ventilation	...	...	...	20
Insufficient or inadequate water supply	...	...	...	13
Defective flues, chimneys, boilers, grates, etc.	...	...	...	323
Defective floors	...	...	...	456
Damp and/or defective walls	...	...	...	1,196
Defective roofs, gutters, rainwater pipes	...	...	...	1,153
Defective doors	...	...	...	267

Defective, dangerous stairs	...	...	...	...	63
Dirty and/or verminous houses	...	...	...	...	26
Defective cesspools	...	...	...	...	4
Offensive accumulations	...	...	...	...	42

Infectious Disease Prevention.

Customary routine visits were made to contacts of notifiable Infectious Disease. Specially noteworthy incidents occurred during the year in connection with Smallpox and Food Poisoning.

(a) SMALLPOX. —Sanitary Inspectors executed visits of surveillance to Smallpox contacts on 1,530 occasions. Almost all of these visits were necessitated during the first five months of the year and were in connection with immigrant service and civilian personnel returning to this country from overseas. There was no incidence of the disease within the district during the year.

(b) FOOD POISONING.

(1) In June a clinical case of Dysentery was notified in a female assistant at one of the School Kitchens. The case was not supported by pathological confirmation. In view of the circumstances of the case and doubtful histories of contacts at the School Kitchen, stool specimens from all employees at the Kitchen were submitted to pathological examination. No Food Poisoning or enteric organisms were recovered. The notified case was excluded from the Kitchen until certified free from infection. No further cases resulted either in school children or Kitchen Staff.

(2) In September, twenty-six out of forty-eight guests at a wedding reception were affected with food-poisoning. Investigations established the cause to be the enterotoxin of coagulase-positive staphylococcus aureus. The source of infection was one of two meat foods consumed at the wedding breakfast. Inability to recover separate specimens for laboratory examination precluded differentiation.

(3) During the year investigations were made on seven occasions in connection with sporadic cases of illness various described as Food Poisoning, Gastro-enteritis, Dysentery, etc. Ten persons were affected by the illnesses; the cases were not connected with each other, occurred at different times, and were not confirmed by laboratory examination of pathological specimens. Investigations did not yield any information to support an interpretation that the cases could be held to be Food Poisoning in the Public Health sense of the term.

RODENT CONTROL.

Surface Infestations.

During the year 349 complaints were received concerning surface rodents. Visits arising out of these complaints, follow-up inspections and routine searches totalled 5,468 during the year. Details of treatment and results were as follows :—

No. of poisoned baits laid	...	...	...	...	291
No. of baits completely or partially consumed	...	...	...	...	269
No. of traps set	...	...	...	...	258
No. of rats caught and bodies recovered	...	...	...	...	200
No. of mice caught and bodies recovered	...	...	...	...	202
No. of cases requiring service of Statutory Notice	...	...	...	...	10

Sewer Maintenance Treatment.

Two sewer maintenance treatments were undertaken during the year. Ministry of Food control methods were adopted, involving two days pre-baiting followed by the poison bait, the second treatment being carried out one month later, utilising a different bait base and different poison.

On the occasion of the first treatment 2,300-lbs. of damp sausage rusk were used as pre-bait, followed by 2,300-lbs. of the rusk, including $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ of zinc phosphide. During the second treatment 3,156-lbs. of bread mash were expended as pre-bait, and 1,578-lbs. of bread mash and 10% arsenic as poison bait.

During the first maintenance treatment 27.3% of the manholes showed pre-bait take on one or both days; this was reduced to 25.5% during the second treatment. Corresponding figures for first and second treatments in 1944 were 36.7% and 32.7%; in 1945 the figures were 26.0% and 23.2%.

According to the Ministry of Food classification the following figures would appear to indicate an infestation "small in intensity and limited in extent":—

				<i>First Treatment.</i>	<i>Second Treatment.</i>
No. of manholes in system	...	...	...	5,232	5,232
No. of manholes baited	...	...	...	4,600	4,210
No. of manholes showing pre-bait take on one or both days	...	...	...	1,257	1,074
No. of manholes showing "complete" pre-bait take on one or both days	...	...	...	317	268

Disinfestation of Premises—Insect Pests.

One operator is employed on disinfestation of premises found to be infested with vermin. Notices are served on the owner or occupier of premises in accordance with the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, and work is executed by the Council's operator on request. During the year 1946 the following work was undertaken in this connection:—

No. of premises sprayed	...	...	...	...	162
Fees received	...	...	...	...	£94
No. of cases requiring service of Statutory notice	...				23

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The Water Carriage system of drainage is used in all except small outlying districts of the Borough, the crude sewage being discharged into the River Mersey and its Estuary at suitable points. Septic tanks and cesspools are in use in a number of houses in the Western part of the Borough, where there is also a small sewage disposal plant.

Sewer Reconstructions.

During the year the following lengths of sewer have been relaid, in addition to sundry repairs necessitated by previous war damage :—

Osborne Avenue	...	...	...	32 yds. of 9 in. sewer.
Field Road	...	...	...	30 yds. of 12 in. sewer.
Grove Road	...	...	...	40 yds. of 18 in. sewer.
Grove Road	...	...	...	40 yds. of 24 in. sewer.

House Drainage.

No. of choked drains detected and cleared after service of notices	...	...	...	...	620
No. of smoke/water tests conducted on existing drains	...	...	...	...	27
Drainage systems wholly reconstructed	...	...	...	...	3

Drain Flushing.

The Local Authority normally flush the drains of all houses in the Borough without charge. In addition, the drains at schools and public buildings, etc., were also flushed. During 1946 this was continued after partial resumption in 1945. Drainage flushing was carried out during the year as follows :—

House to House Flushing.

Streets visited	...	...	...	...	1,307
Houses visited	...	...	...	...	15,968
Yard W.C.'s. flushed	...	...	...	...	11,821
Yard Gullies flushed	...	...	...	...	45,838
Drains found choked	...	...	...	...	2,918
Drains cleared	...	...	...	...	2,812
References to Public Health Dept.	...	...	...	...	106
No access to premises	...	...	...	...	1,131

Schools and Public Buildings.

Streets visited	...	...	...	...	102
Buildings visited	...	...	...	...	123
Yard W.C.'s. flushed	...	...	...	...	749
Yard Gullies flushed	...	...	...	...	2,388
Drains found choked	...	...	...	...	420
Drains cleared	...	...	...	...	400

WATER SUPPLY.

The actual volume of water supplied during the year ended 31st December, 1946, was 1,349,294,240 gallons, and the total consumption per head per day was 38.52 gallons, of which 31.93 gallons were used in the homes and 6.59 gallons for shipping and trade. During the year 1,766,930 gallons were used by the Cleansing Department.

Analysis and Bacteriological Examination of Water.

During the year numerous samples of water have been collected from all parts of the District and careful chemical and bacteriological testings carried out by the City Bacteriologist at the Bacteriological Department, Liverpool, and the Water Examination and Chemical Laboratory at Wallasey. In all testings and analyses poisonous

metals were reported absent and there has been no case of contamination from Lead. The regular Bacteriological Examinations of Waters from all sections of the plant and system and from all districts of the Supply and Distribution have shown the water to be maintained in a constant condition of purity, sterility and freedom from all harmful colonies of bacteria.

Source of Water Supply.

The Water Supply to the County Borough of Wallasey is obtained from two sources, as follows: Bulk supplies of soft upland Lake Alwen water from the Birkenhead Corporation and softened water from the Bore Holes at the Liscard Pumping Station, Seaview Road.

Soft upland water of the highest possible purity is obtained in bulk from the Birkenhead Corporation from their Alwen Reservoir under two agreements. The first agreement dated 28th July, 1925, provided for supplies of water in perpetuity up to a maximum quantity of two million gallons per diem from 1943.

This supply commenced on 16th August, 1926.

The other agreement with the Birkenhead Corporation, which was completed on 6th April, 1933, provided for additional supplies of Lake Alwen water, which were commenced on the 7th August, 1935.

Under these combined agreements a supply of 3.0 million gallons per diem is now being received.

The quantity of water raised from the Bore Holes at the Seaview Road Water Works is regulated in accordance with the requirements of the district, which vary according to the time of the year, between 2,000,000 and 500,000 gallons per day. This absolutely pure, sparkling water is pumped, after softening, into the Reservoirs at Gorsehill to be mixed with the upland waters from Lake Alwen before being delivered to the district and the homes of the people.

The normal capacities of the Reservoirs are as follows:—

				Gallons.
No. 1 Reservoir	...	...	...	2,000,000
No. 2 Reservoir	...	...	...	4,250,000
Total Capacity	...	...	...	6,250,000

Consequential to Air Raid Damage, the capacity of No. 2 Reservoir is reduced to 1,750,000 gallons, making a total storage capacity of 3,750,000 gallons.

Under normal conditions continuous supplies of water are maintained of a hardness in the nature of 7 to 8 degrees, which is under the classification of soft water, but still contains the valuable mineral products necessary for life.

As a precautionary measure, the water is chlorinated at Gorsehill, the dosage being 0.1 parts per million, which leave the water free of any taste or smell of chlorine.

Certificates are issued by the City Bacteriologist, and are consistently as follows in regard to samples taken from houses in the Borough:—

Bacteria per c.c. at 37° C.	...	0
Bacteria per c.c. at 22° C.	...	0
B. Coli per 100 c.c.	...	0
Total Coliform organisms per 100 c.c.	...	0

Class I (Highly satisfactory).

Average of twelve samples of water taken from various parts of the district during 1946 :—

	<i>Parts per 100,000.</i>
Total Hardness	7.1
Chlorine	7.7
Total Solid Matter	21.6
Free Ammonia	0.001
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.004
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours at 37° C.	0.13
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.14
pH. value	7.3
Metals—Lead, Copper, Iron ...	Absent.

The water is clear, bright, pure and wholesome.

I am indebted to the General Manager of the Corporation Gas and Water Dept. for information with regard to consumption figures, etc.

INSPECTION OF PREMISES—FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Inspection of premises where food is prepared, sold and stored, was undertaken on a limited scale during the year.

Contraventions of Section 13 of the Act were detected and the following improvements effected in various premises during 1946 :—

Section 13 (1) : Provision of hot water	16
Provision of cold water	8
Provision of soap and towel	6
Renewal of floor	1
Cleansing of premises	3
Repair of defective drainage	1

Ice Cream Registrations.

Applications for the registration of premises for the manufacture, sale and storage of ice cream were considered by the Council, and the following new registrations granted during the year :—

Sale only	8
Sale and Storage	16
Manufacture, Sale and Storage	5
Storage	1

ADMINISTRATION OF SHOPS ACTS, 1912-1936.

During the year 1,615 visits were made to shops. The full provisions of the Shops Acts, 1912-1936, are administered by the Department, including Shop Hours of Closing, Employment of Young Persons, Sanitary Conditions, and the maintenance of records, and the exhibition of notices.

During these visits 1,101 contraventions of various categories were detected and arising out of these, 206 notices were served.

As a result of 714 re-inspections of these shops, the following contraventions were found to have been abated :—

Shop Acts, 1912	Section 1 (2), provision of assistants' half-holiday card	253
	Section 4 (3), exhibition of half-day closing notice	145
	Section 10 (1), exhibition of notice relating to mixed trades ..	43

Shops Acts, 1928	Section 1, contravention of shop hours of closing	1
Shops Acts, 1934	Section 10 (4), provision of washing facilities	35
	Section 10 (2), provision of sanitary accommodation	24
	Section 10 (2), cleansing or repair of existing sanitary accommodation	23
	Section 10 (1), maintenance of reasonable temperature	2
	Section 10 (5), provision of facilities for taking of meals	1
	Section 7 (1) and 7 (2), provision of documents relating to employment of young persons	129
Shops Sunday Trading Restrictions Act, 1936	... ..	1
	Section 12 (b), provision of records <i>re</i> Sunday employment	13

HOUSING.

The following information with regard to housing has been kindly supplied by the Borough Surveyor :—

HOUSING FIGURES FOR 1946. PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.

Ward.	HOUSING.	
	Certified 1946	In Progress 31/12/46
Saughall Massie	1	—
Leasowe	10	2
Moreton	28	30
New Brighton	12	8
Upper Brighton	—	22
North Liscard	—	7
South Liscard	—	2
North Egremont	1	15
South Egremont	—	3
North Seacombe	—	—
South Seacombe	—	—
Somerville	8	48
Poulton	3	41
Marlowe	20	33
St. Hilary	12	28
Warren	11	31
Wallasey	4	36
Totals	110	306

The great majority of houses certified, whether new or war-damaged reconstruction houses, were sold on completion.

FLATS.—15 houses were converted into 32 flats.

HOUSING COMPLETED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY DURING 1946.

HOUSES.				
Hillcroft Road,	W.D.R.	...	...	16
Poulton Area,	W.D.R.	...	...	36
Total				52 houses
FLATS.				
Duplex houses,	4 blocks	...	...	16
Poulton Area,	W.D.R.	...	...	8
Total				24 flats.

UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF 1946.

HOUSES.			FLATS.	
Pasture Crescent	...	42	Duplex	...
Leasowe Estate	...	22		72 flats.
U.C.O. Houses	...	46	Duplex Shops	...
Total		...		110 houses.

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

Individual Unfit Houses.

Demolition Orders were recommended in respect of 2 houses during the year, but were not in operation at the close of the year.

Clearance Areas.

Representations were made in respect of 20 houses and five clearance areas defined. At the close of the year the clearance orders awaited confirmation of the Minister of Health.

CAMPING LICENCES.

There are in the Borough a number of sites licensed for camping and they are in regular use by holiday-makers during the summer months. All the sites are provided with an ample supply of water by public mains and sanitary accommodation on the water carriage system.

No. of licences relating to sites issued during the year	...	5
No. of licences relating to sites refused during the year...	...	4
No. of cases of unlicensed camping detected	...	1
No. of visits made to sites	...	90

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALLASEY
EDUCATION COMMITTEE.



Annual Report

of the

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

for the year

1946

STAFF

- DR. R. B. BERRY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.
- DR. M. J. T. LEITCH, M.B., Ch.B., M.M.S.A., D.C.H.,
Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer.
- DR. L. H. MORONEY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Temporary Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer.
- MR. C. J. LUYA, L.D.S.,
Senior Dental Surgeon.
- MR. W. A. HENDERSON, L.D.S.,
(Returned from Active Service, 2/9/1946.)
- MR. E. G. MASON, L.D.S. (Returned from Active Service 1/7/1946),
Assistant School Dental Surgeons.
- MRS. O. FERTIG, M.D. (Prague), L.D.S. (Prague),
Temporary Assistant School Dental Surgeon (Appointment terminated 30/6/46).
- MRS. A. PARKINSON, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Certif.,
* Superintendent Health Visitor/School Nurse.
- MISS R. M. QUINTON, Certificate R.S.I.
- MISS L. M. VANCE, S.R.N., S.C.M.
- MISS B. JACKSON, S.R.N., S.C.M.
- MISS E. A. TEGGINS, S.R.N., S.C.M.
- MISS G. JOHNSON, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Resigned 20/4/46).
- MISS H. DEAVALL, S.R.N., S.C.M.
- MISS A. KEEN, S.R.N., C.M.B. Part 1.
- MISS I. E. BANKS, S.R.N., C.M.B. Part 1. Health Visitors Certif.
(Appointed 1/7/46)
Combined Duties—Health Visitor/School Nurse.
- MISS E. W. NICHOLLS, Certificate R.S.I.,
School Nurse.
- DR. W. D. HAMILTON, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., D.O.M.S.,
(Ophthalmic).
- DR. R. J. MARTIN, M.B., Ch.B., D.L.O.,
(Ear, Nose and Throat).
- DR. H. DAVIES, M.B., Ch.M., F.R.C.S.,
(Orthopaedic).
Visiting Specialists.
- DR. M. B. HALL, M.D., M.B., Ch. B.,
(Consultant Pyschiatrist).
- MISS N. V. CULLOTY, C.S.P.
- MRS. L. M. GREGSON, C.S.P. (appointed 18/11/46).
- MISS B. BARLEY, C.S.P. (Resigned 31/10/46).
(Physiotherapists).
- MISS M. PROCTER, B.A.,
Educational Psychologist.
- MRS. U. BARRETT-LENNARD, (Diploma in Social Science.)
Social Worker.
- MRS. M. PEEL, (L.C.S.T.)
Part-time Speech Therapist.
- MR. S. D. LAWSON.
Clerical Assistant.

Town Hall,
Wallasey,

July, 1947.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Education Committee.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the Report on the work of the School Medical Department for 1946. During the year Dr. Thomson was appointed Senior Assistant School Medical Officer, taking up his duties at the beginning of 1947, and it should be possible during the present year to proceed further with the reorganisation of the work of the School Medical Department and Records, though this work can never be put on sound lines until premises, which can be considered suitable are available, and proper accommodation for the clerical staff can be found in closer association with the other officers of the department.

The report shows a considerable increase of work, mainly in three directions—treatment of cases of defective vision and squint, treatment of orthopaedic cases, particularly those dealt with by the Physio-Therapists, and dental inspections and treatment.

Mr. Horace Davies again draws attention to the prevalence of postural errors of childhood and the report of the Organisers of Physical Education shows that this subject is not being neglected in the schools, and it is hoped that the proposed development of physical training in closer collaboration with the School Medical Service will, in time, bring about definite improvement in this direction.

Financial arrangements for the treatment of school children by the Merseyside Hospitals have not yet been completed.

Mr. Luya, the Senior School Dentist, deals with the subject of Orthodontic treatment; this matter is being further considered.

Inspector Powell, N.S.P.C.C., has given, as always, much help to the department, but unfortunately the need for his services shows no diminution.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

RONALD B. BERRY,
School Medical Officer.

GENERAL.

NUTRITION.

Special attention was again given to this question and the opening of several additional kitchens has enabled the Authority to increase the supply of School dinners to a figure considerably in excess of that of the previous year. The month of September also saw the extension of free milk facilities to every Schoolchild.

GENERAL REMARKS.

During the year the general health of the Schoolchildren has been found, on the whole, to be very satisfactory and it is certain that the beneficial effects of the provision of milk and meals in the schools is reflected in an increased alertness and improved nutrition.

Another welcome feature has been observed in the increasing number of parents who attended the medical inspections of child entrants and the interest and co-operation they displayed in the welfare of their children.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ORTHOPAEDIC CLINICS FOR 1946.

At Liscard the Orthopaedic Surgeon attended on 40 occasions and 1,065 cases were examined.

At Moreton there were 10 attendances and 229 cases were examined.

From a survey of the index table it will be seen that the treatment of the postural errors of childhood constitutes the major part of the work of the clinics. A further increase in the number of these conditions has to be reported and until a comprehensive scheme of organised physical training is adopted in the schools to prevent and correct these postural errors, no decline in the numbers can be expected. The majority of these occur during early school age and their early recognition is of paramount importance. Treatment at this stage gives excellent results but constant supervision is necessary to prevent relapse.

Many cases of spastic paralysis attend the clinic and it is probable that a more comprehensive treatment for these cases will shortly be available, now that a National Council for the Welfare of Spastics has been instituted.

There have been no new cases of surgical tuberculosis seen at the clinic during the year and the number of cases of rickets has shown a welcome decline.

REPORT OF Mr. HORACE DAVIES, Orthopaedic Surgeon.

Number of sessions held at the Authority's Clinics	...	...	...	50
Number of New Cases	...	...	...	285
Number of Re-examinations	...	...	...	1,009

	Disease Categories	New Cases				Re-examinations				Discharged				
		Pre-School Age		School Age		Pre-School Age		School Age		Cured	Relieved	Left District	Refused Treatment	Died
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.					
Congenital Deformities	Trunk ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Upper Limb ...	3	4	1	2	4	18	5	5	6	—	—	—	—
	Lower Limb ...	2	4	1	1	17	9	25	14	2	—	—	—	—
Acquired Deformities	Flat Foot ...	9	8	44	49	24	11	215	208	124	—	—	—	—
	Hallux Valgus ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
	Postural Kyphosis and Scoliosis ...	—	—	8	2	—	—	43	26	9	—	—	—	—
	Knock Knee... ...	11	15	8	20	24	25	18	27	—	—	—	—	—
	Bow Leg ...	12	7	—	—	12	3	1	4	1	—	—	—	—
	Other Conditions ...	6	7	17	16	4	6	77	63	13	—	1	—	—
Affections of Skeleton	Rickets ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
	Other Conditions ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Affections of Nervous System	Spastic Paralysis ...	1	1	—	—	1	6	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
	Infantile Paralysis ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
	Peripheral... ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Nerve Lesions ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Affections of Bones	Other Conditions ...	2	1	3	1	7	7	14	9	1	—	—	—	—
	Osteomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—
Affections of Joints	T.B. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	—	—	—	—
	Non-T.B. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Affections of Spine	T.B. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	3	1	—	—	—	—
	Non-T.B. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Affections of Epiphyses		—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Affections of soft tissues		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Complications of Trauma		4	—	—	2	—	—	14	2	2	—	—	—	—
Cases referred to Clinic and found normal		3	3	—	2	—	2	4	3	9	—	—	—	—

PHYSIO-THERAPISTS REPORT.

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER, 1946.

CLASSIFICATION MONTHLY ATTENDANCES TOTAL

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Cases REMEDIAL EXS. ... Attend:	198	222	259	212	261	256	172	68	289	294	255	214
	809	956	1380	490	1560	998	1155	119	1042	1356	924	684
												11,473
Cases ASTHMA. ... Attend:	5	9	8	8	8	7	11	1	11	10	13	12
	57	78	90	20	82	61	98	3	67	99	93	83
												831
Cases TONSILS AND A. ... Attend:	19	23	18	10	7	7	7	0	4	6	7	15
	38	45	37	18	13	8	18	0	5	9	21	49
												261
Cases U.V.R. ... Attend:	36	33	41	33	30	29	34	1	23	33	34	24
	136	203	197	140	226	73	159	5	91	158	161	109
												1,658
OBSERVATIONS ONLY.	9	5	9	7	12	9	7	1	5	10	14	4
												92
SHOE ALTERATIONS ONLY	8	4	7	10	8	11	8	4	9	5	10	1
												85
												14,400
												Total
NEW CASES	48	27	48	31	57	37	48	16	51	47	39	12
												461
DISCHARGES	17	6	11	9	12	3	8	2	20	35	14	11
												148

TOTAL ORTHOPAEDIC CASES ... 1,267
TOTAL ORTHOPAEDIC ATTENDANCES ... 14,400
NEW CASES ... 461
DISCHARGES ... 148

REPORT OF THE SPEECH THERAPIST.

The work at Speech Training Classes has suffered to a great extent owing to lack of adequate accommodation, but this condition has now been remedied by the provision of a room at Mill Lane Hospital where all the classes are now held.

During the year 48 children suffering from such defects as dyslalia, lisping, sigmatism, stammering, etc. have been treated whilst a noticeable feature has been the marked decrease in the number requiring treatment for stammering.

The policy of treating children of early ages has lessened the number of discharges, but this disadvantage should be more than off-set by the probability of permanent cures among such children.

Less group work was attempted and more attention given to individual cases and the encouraging results of this change gives cause to hope that a more solid basis for speech therapy will soon be established.

The treatment given is based on the principle previously established and with the acquisition of new premises and more modern equipment it should be possible to place the classes on a full-time basis, thus enabling children to have treatment on more occasions than is at present possible.

Attendances have generally been good, due perhaps to the increasing interest of parents in their children's treatment, but there appears to be a lack of interest in the schools and children do not receive encouragement to attend the classes.

PSYCHOLOGISTS' REPORT.

The total number of new cases referred to the Child Guidance Clinic during the year was 72, viz.—

Educational Advice	...	...	...	...	27
Eneurisis...	...	...	...	...	2
Stealing ...	...	...	...	...	16
Nervousness	...	...	...	...	10
Difficult Behaviour	...	...	...	...	12
Truanting	...	...	...	...	2
Sex Offence	...	...	...	...	1
Home Conditions	...	...	...	...	2
					—
					72
					—

Of the above cases 26 were referred for reports, either for purposes of education guidance, or for the use of the Juvenile Court, 7 cases were referred to Dr. Barton Hall (Psychiatrist), and 1 case was referred to a private Psychiatrist.

Of the 38 cases dealt with by the Wallasey Child Guidance Service, 28 were closed as improved, 2 cases were closed owing to the children leaving the district, 1 case was closed owing to the lack of parental co-operation, and 7 cases were carried forward.

These cases were referred by Parents, Teachers, School Medical Officers, General Practitioners, Probation Officers, and the Superintendent School Enquiry Officer.

REPORT OF THE SENIOR SCHOOL DENTIST.

With the return of the two assistant Dental Officers from Active Service and the resignation in July of the temporary Assistant Dental Officer the staff reverted to its pre-war strength of three Dental Officers and three Secretary/Attendants.

This staff managed to cope fairly successfully with the work prior to the war, but it remains to be seen whether it will be adequate under the new conditions.

Previously, no large scale inspections of pupils in what are now Secondary Grammar Schools were made, but in September a preliminary inspection was made at such a school, of newly admitted pupils and those who had been in attendance for a year.

The result of this inspection showed the condition of the teeth to be generally good, especially among the senior pupils and the amount of conservation treatment which had been carried out by either the School Dental Service, or by private practitioners was surprisingly large.

Possibly, a useful purpose might be served if the pupils in Secondary Grammar Schools were given occasional lectures by a member of the School Dental Staff.

The presence of parents at the first inspection of their children's teeth has added a complication to this branch of the work and has reduced the number of children inspected at each examination, but the value of the personal interview between Dental Officer and parent will undoubtedly compensate for the extra time now spent and will in general ensure that more appointments will be definitely kept.

The increased scope of the School Dental Service has necessitated the conversion of a room at the Wallasey Clinic into a third surgery and despite difficulties in obtaining equipment and supplies this should be in full use by the time this report appears in print.

During the year the question of Orthodontic treatment has come to the fore and although many enquiries have been made by parents regarding this type of treatment for their children it seems doubtful whether such treatment is possible within the sphere of the School Dental Service in view of the general difficulty of the work, the amount of time necessary, the need for specialised training on the part of the operator, and the trying time endured by patients.

It may be that before elaborate schemes for Orthodontic treatment are mooted, consideration should be given to the question of either educating or compelling parents to agree to their children receiving preventative treatment as opposed to extraction with its ultimate eruption of permanent teeth in all places but the correct ones.

At the present no facilities exist at the School Dental Clinics for the treatment of Orthodontic conditions and cases are referred to the Liverpool Dental Hospital in limited numbers owing to the great demand on its services.

Should it be decided that Orthodontic treatment become part of the School Dental Service it would be necessary to instal equipment and either allocate one of the School Dental Surgeons to carry out simple treatment, or alternatively obtain the services of a part-time Orthodontist to deal with major conditions and assist with minor ones.

To secure the services of a capable Orthodontist would not be easy, and it would seem that more valuable results might be obtained by the appointment of a Dental Officer for general duties than one who would be mainly concerned with a highly complex speciality.

REPORT ON PHYSICAL EDUCATION, 1946.

MISS E. A. GEE (*Infants and Girls*).

MR. W. N. PATTERSON (*Boys*).

Due to a number of causes, the least of which is not the continued lack of indoor accommodation, the general standard of Physical Education in Schools remains low. Many Schools have no indoor accommodation for the Physical Training lesson during inclement weather. Consequently there has been a lack of continuity in the work.

Appended are a few brief notes concerning the work of the Infants' and Girls' Schools and that of the Boys' Schools.

INFANTS AND GIRLS.

A number of Demonstration lessons and short courses on the various aspects of the work were taken during the year and an encouraging interest was shown by the teachers. It is not, however, surprising when lessons are spasmodic that comment was made by the Orthopaedic Surgeon on the poor posture of a large number of schoolchildren. From observations made in the schools this appeared to be due, in the main to lack of physical exercise rather than to the inferior quality of the work performed. If facilities for Physical Education were improved it is felt that all the other difficulties could be tackled and overcome, and the aim that every child should have the opportunity of regular periods of Physical Education under conditions where it was possible to strip into the minimum of clothing and work either barefooted or in soft rubber-soled shoes would be realised.

Interest in games was maintained during the year and the Winter session concluded with a successful Netball Rally in which a large number of Wallasey teams played with teams from Birkenhead.

Swimming lessons continued to be popular and a creditable number of girls gained Swimming Certificates, the majority of which were awarded for good performance in preference to feats of endurance.

BOYS.

At the beginning of the year the Organiser of Physical Education (Boys) returned from service with H.M. Forces. It was immediately noticed that due to wartime conditions, there was a feeling of frustration behind the work generally.

In the early part of 1946 there were obvious signs of overworked staffs in the schools trying to cope with sub-normal conditions of facilities and equipment. Whilst efforts had been made to retain Physical Education in modified form as part of the schools' work, the standard of practical work and the condition of equipment and playing fields had obviously deteriorated. In consequence there has been a steady up-hill climb to get back to a standard of staffing and practical work at pre-war level. That standard has not yet been reached.

The enforced cuts in estimated expenditure for Physical Education will again preclude schools having that amount of clothing, storage, P.T. and games equipment that it had been hoped to provide. The work will continue to suffer until this factor can be altered.

There has been a lack of suitably qualified Physical Training Specialists for specialist appointments on the staffs of the Modern Secondary Schools. It has, however, been possible, in conjunction with the Football Association and with the approval of the English Schools F.A., to introduce Professional Association Football Coaches into our schools to teach boys the fundamental and finer points of the game. The scheme started originally at the Leasowe Playing Field,

has been developed in the Modern Secondary Schools and is now being adopted with success in other parts of the country. To date the expenditure of the scheme has been met by the Football Association and the cost to the Local Education Authority has been negligible.

Improved facilities for the teaching of swimming have been arranged and these will be extended to include the Moreton Schools next year.

Private transport will be used between certain schools, Leasowe Road Playing Field and Guinea Gap Baths. A short course for men teachers of swimming has been arranged to give teachers more experience of class-teaching methods. Ear-cleansing drill will be included in the syllabus in an effort to reduce the number of cases of irritation of the ear arising after visits to the Baths.

As soon as it is financially possible it is considered advisable for each boy to be provided with Physical Training shoes, shorts and some adequate means of storage. The value of showers after the Physical Training lessons is not overlooked. At the moment there are few schools where shower provision is made.

Efforts have been made to revive inter-school and inter-town sports competitions, the Wallasey Schoolboys winning the Wirral section of the Welsh Schoolboys Association Football Shield. The Wallasey Grammar School had a number of successes in the Northern Counties Junior Athletics Championships.

Though there is a lack of adequate playing fields for certain schools, the Parks Committee have co-operated in placing better facilities in the Public Parks at the disposal of the Education Committee for use by schools.

An interesting innovation has been the introduction of Boxing into one or two schools.

It is suggested that a close link be introduced between School Medical Officers on the one hand and the teachers of Physical Education on the other. Where possible, it is desirable that the Physical Training Teacher be present when his classes are being medically examined. Simple remedial work, e.g., flat foot exercises, can then be introduced as part of the routine Physical Education Table under the direction of the Medical Officer, and for children not sufficiently malformed to merit treatment at the clinics.

ELLERAY PARK SPECIAL SCHOOL.

No. of Children on Roll, 1st Jan., 1946...	...	...	Total	94
Boys 58, Girls 36.				
No. of Children admitted during the year 1st Jan. to Dec.				
31st 1946, ...	...	...	...	18
No. of Children left during the year 1st Jan. to Dec. 31st, 1946				19
No. of Children on Roll, 31st December, 1946 :—				
Boys 52, Girls 41	...	...	...	93

MEDICAL RECORD CARDS.

During the year no applications were received from Medical practitioners for confidential information obtainable from school medical records, as provided for by the National Health Insurance (Juvenile Contributors and Young Persons) Act 1937.

Children Medically Examined in connection with the issue of Employment Cards or Entertainment Licences.

Delivery of Newspapers	...	...	...	...	156
Delivery of Milk	...	...	...	...	1
Entertainment Licences	...	...	...	...	11

WALLASEY EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

MEDICAL INSPECTION, 1946
PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

TABLE I.

MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

(A) ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups :							
First Age Group	....	...	...	...	...	...	1401
Second Age Group		...	...	...	...	...	880
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	...	692
Total							2973
Number of other Routine Inspections							

(B) OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections and Re-inspections	*2114
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* Does not include employment cases.

TABLE II.

(B) Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the year in the Routine Age Groups.

Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly Subnormal)		D (Bad)	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	2973	551	18.4799	2188	73.5899	233	7.9299	1	.0003

TABLE III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF CHILDREN DURING 1946.

Group I. TREATMENT OF MINOR AILMENTS.

(Excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table V.)

Disease or Defect.	Number of Defects Treated.		
	Under Local Education Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	Total
Skin—			
Ringworm—Scalp	6 [*] (—)	(—) —	6
Body	20	—	20
Scabies	47	—	47
Impetigo	125	—	125
Other Skin Diseases	166	2	168
Minor Eye Defects (External & other)	174	2	176
Minor Ear Defects (Otorrhoea, etc.)	232	7	239
Miscellaneous	1901	243	2144
Total ...	2671	254	2925

* No X-Ray cases as shown in brackets.

GROUP II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

(Excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).

Errors of Refraction (including squint)—

No. of Defects dealt with—

Under the Authority's Scheme	...	...	...	450
Otherwise	...	...	...	—
				<hr/> 450

. Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I)—

Under the Authority's Scheme	...	...	...	1
By Private Practitioner or at Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme	...	...	...	—
Otherwise	..	...	...	—
				<hr/> 1
				<hr/> <hr/> 451

No. of Children for whom spectacles were—

Prescribed—

Under the Authority's Scheme	...	...	...	...	438
Otherwise	...	...	...	...	—

Obtained—

Under the Authority's Scheme	...	...	...	...	438
Otherwise	...	...	...	...	—

Group III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

Received Operative Treatment—

	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	Total
Under the Authority's Scheme, in					
Clinic or Hospital
Received other forms of Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
Total number treated

(i) Tonsils only. (ii) Adenoids only. (iii) Tonsils and Adenoids.

(iv) Other defects of the Nose and Throat.

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Routine Age Groups.	{	Age 5 years	132	}	Total	5442
		" 6 "	274			
		" 7 "	540			
		" 8 "	738			
		" 9 —	820			
		" 10 "	910			
		" 11 "	463			
		" 12 "	...	...	...	709
		" 13 "	...	...	...	480
		" 14 "	...	...	...	307
		" 15 "	...	...	...	51
		" 16 "	" and over	...	...	18	
		Specials			
Grand Total						6672	
<hr/>									
Referred for Treatment			2938		
Specials			1230		
						<hr/>	4168		
Actually Treated			2460		
Specials			1230		
						<hr/>	3690		

TABLE IV.—Continued.

Number of half-days devoted to Inspection	...	...	...	72
Number of half-days devoted to Treatment	...	...	...	1056
				<hr/>
	Total	...	...	1128
				<hr/>
Total number of attendances made by Children for Treatment				5853
Number of Permanent Teeth—				
Extracted	...	...	...	734
Filled	...	...	...	1530
Number of Temporary Teeth—				
Extracted	...	...	...	2724
Filled	...	...	...	25
Total number of Fillings	...	...	...	1555
Total number of Extractions	...	...	...	3458
*Number of administrations of general anaesthetics	...	...	...	2001
Number of Other Operations—				
Permanent	...	...	...	692
Temporary	...	...	...	—
	*Nitrous Oxide.			

TABLE V.

UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

(1)	Total number of Examinations of Children in the Schools by School Nurses	20,054
(2)	Number of individual Children found unclean ...	1,107
(3)	Number of Children cleansed under arrangements made by the Education Authority	—
(4)	Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken—	
	(a) Under the Education Acts of 1921 or 1944 ...	—
	(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	—

MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

During the year, 36 cases were recommended by the Assistant School Medical Officer for admission to Day or Residential Special Schools, and 9 cases were notified to the Local Mental Deficiency Authority under the Mental Deficiency (Notification of Children) Regulations, 1928, or under Section 57 of the Education Act, 1944.

